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WOBURN, Mass.

HISTORIC SITES

—AND—

OLD HOUSES

BY W. R. CUTTER

REPRINTED FROM "THE NEWS" 1892

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CUTTER, WILLIAM RICHARD, 1847-1918.
Woburn historic sites and old houses...
[Woburn,Mass.,1892]
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INDIAN RELICS.—The earliest aboriginal relic, and, perhaps, the only one of the kind to be found in the present limits of Woburn, is the stone mortar to be seen on the summit of Horn Pond Mountain. This is hollowed in a solid rock, and whether this was originally a natural hollow, or not, its purpose, to the Indian, or still older aboriginal, was the same; for in these hollows the corn was pounded into meal. C. C. Abbott, a recent authority on this subject, states that natural hollows found in stationary rocks were frequently utilized by the Indians for this purpose. The pestles were of stone, and some specimens of these are preserved in the antique department of the Woburn Public Library. The natural cavity was somewhat deepened by use, and that on the summit of Horn Pond Mountain was considerably polished from the same cause. An inference to be drawn from this is that the hill and pond, bearing the well-known name of Horn Pond, were at the centre of a large aboriginal settlement long before the days of our forefathers, as it was customary for such people to settle about their mortar and fishing place, whence they derived a large portion of their support.

Since this stone relic has probably existed for centuries, it may be preserved for future centuries by the exercise of proper care. It should be marked with a stone tablet, with an inscription briefly describing what it is.

There is another Indian stone mortar in the limits of Winchester, in that section known as Turkey Swamp, on land owned at present by John Johnson & Co., of Woburn. It is in a large stone, but the stone is not a stationary rock.

LOCALITIES CONNECTED WITH THE EARLY SETTLEMENT OF THE TOWN, OR NAMED IN EARLY RECORDS AND MAPS.

HORN POND, named on a map of date 1633. Alluded to as the "great pond," 1640, and to be public property when the settlement of the town was effected.

HORN POND MOUNTAIN, shown as a hill on a map of 1633.

ABERJONA RIVER, shown as a stream on a map of date 1633.

MISTICK POND,—never in Woburn limits, but formerly very near them,—shown by name on a map of 1633.

WEDGE POND,—in that part of Woburn now Winchester,—shown, but not by name, on a map of 1633. The earliest mention of the pond by name, yet found, is 1687. It is first mentioned by name in the Woburn records under date of 1692.

WINTER POND,—in that part of Woburn now Winchester,—shown, but not by name, on a map of 1633. The earliest mention of this pond by name is 1652.

WATERFIELD LOTS, described 1638. Granted to inhabitants of the town of Charlestown by that town.

"The first possessions of civilized man within the present limits of the city."

GEORGE BUNKER'S LOT, 1638. A part of the Waterfield Grant. First mentioned in present Woburn records, 1641. The gift of this important lot was a valuable benefaction to the early settlers of the town. It was located in the precise centre of the locality where the proposed "village," or location of the meeting-house, was to be. It embraced a large quantity of land, and included the present Woburn Common, the height known as Meeting-house Hill, and other lands adjacent.

ROBERT CUTLER'S LOT, 1638 (again, 1640). A part of Waterfield Grant.

Near to where the meeting-house "was to be." It embraced a large section of land located west of present Woburn Common, and present Main and Pleasant streets.

REAR-ADMIRAL THOS. GRAVES'S FARM. 1638. A part of the Waterfield Grant.

Located in present North Winchester and near Montvale village.

REV. JOHN HARVARD'S LOT, of 120 acres, 1638, —afterwards sold to Thomas Graves. A part of Waterfield grant.

Locality,—neighborhood of present Montvale.

GRANTS, 1640

2-mile square grant. Now in Woburn and Winchester.

4-mile square grant. Now in Woburn, Wilmington and Burlington.

3000-acre grant,—the "upper land," or Nod. Now in Wilmington. The name of "Nod," or "Land of Nod," was used in 1674, and even earlier.

"PARTITION OF THE PONDS," 1640, meaning Mistick Pond, in its division or separation from the upper ponds, such as Wedge, Winter and Horn Ponds. This locality was also described at that date as the "head of the old [Charlestown] bounds."

"GREAT SWAMP," 1640, or later, the great Cedar Swamp, in Wilmington.

COYTEMORE GRANT, of 500 acres, made by General Court, 1640.

Locality, formerly in Woburn, but now in Burlington, near Billerica line.

SHAWSHIN RIVER, named in records, 1640.

HORN POND RIVER, first mentioned by name, 1641.

FIRST BRIDGE (THE), built 1641.

"Over Aberjona River, over against Edward Converse's house." The house of Edward Converse has been generally considered to be the first house erected in the limits of the original town of Woburn.

LONG BRIDGE, built 1641. Over Horn Pond River.

The second important bridge built in the former limits of Woburn.

Note. The First Bridge and the Long Bridge were built in the limits of present Winchester.

TOWN MEADOW, first mentioned 1641.

Locality.—In rear of present building of Woburn Public Library.

FIRST HOUSES, erected by single individuals.

Edward Converse's, Winchester, 1641.

John Mousall's, Woburn, 1641,—called the Hopewell House, 1673. The first house erected in present limits of Woburn. Location,—23 Montvale Ave. The house was standing as late as 1820 or 1830. It was not a large house, but was an old fashioned one-story house. The roof was a gambrel roof. The house stood in the yard of the present estate in the area fenced off in front of the present Second burying-ground. Older citizens are invited to contribute their recollection concerning this house.

FIRST MINISTER'S HOUSE, or Dwelling, begun 1642.

Location,—23 Pleasant Street. It is said a portion of the original timbers are included in those of the present house. In accordance with a common custom of old times the original house was, it may be supposed, comparatively small; then a larger addition was made to it; and sometimes more than one addition was made to the original structure.

The minister's house or dwelling, erected for the first minister of the town of Woburn, was provided by the people and built at the charge of the town, before a minister was obtained.

Note. The above dates are all previous to the incorporation of the town. The name Charlestown village was applied to it in 1640, the site of the present Woburn Centre village was selected by a general committee of the town of Charlestown, 1640, and the village "begun," 1641. The town was incorporated by the name of Woburn, Oct. 7, 1642.

First Streets, with first mention as streets.

Up Street, 1644; Sawpit Lane, 1644; Military Lane, 1644. These are, in part, in present Woburn.

Driver's Lane, 1646; Plain Street, 1646. These are in present Winchester.

Highway to Reading, 1646.

[Main Street] 1646.

Explanation.—Up Street is substantially the same as the upper part of present Cambridge Street, in Woburn and Burlington. It led to Shawshin or Billerica.

Sawpit Lane is the equivalent of present Russell Street, traversing, however, the older, and now disused part of that street, coming through the present woods, to present Cambridge Street, just above the J. R. Kendall place. It was intended to accommodate the mill of Major William Johnson formerly located on Saw Mill Brook, in present Shaker Glen.

The route of the unused part of Russell Street above alluded to is shown on Walling's Map of Middlesex County, 1856.

Military Lane led to Up Street. It led from the meeting-house (on present Common) through the training-field, and Pleasant, Burlington and Locust Streets, as now substantially located, to present Cambridge Street. It is carefully described in the town records, under date of 1732, the early record of the original laying out of the way (1644) being mentioned in that description.

Driver's Lane, leading to Plain Street, is now substantially Church Street, in Winchester.

Plain Street is substantially the same as Cambridge Street, in the Winchester portion, principally.

The highway to Reading here mentioned, 1646, is apparently the equivalent of present New Boston Street, this street being a part of the highway to Reading (that part of old Reading now Wakefield).

Main Street.—though not mentioned by that name, however, in the early town records.—evidently, in some form or other, existed as a highway as early as 1641; and this may be true, in a sense, of the other streets we have just named, since the mention first made of them in the records was, it would appear, a mere legalization of their routes, to satisfy the reasonable demands of the public and of the private land owners through whose lands they passed. In 1646, a part of this highway was named in the Woburn records as the highway between "this town and Mistick Bridge," or Medford. In 1660 it is mentioned in a similar way again, and its route is particularly described. The lower part was once called South Street, 1678 1680. It was often known by the name of the Great Road, or the road to Medford, or Charlestown, even in the present century. It is doubtful, even, if it were generally called by its present name of Main Street until 1834, when the streets in Woburn were named by a committee appointed by the town.

Accurate representations of the first roads cannot at this day be confidently assured.

The County authorities are now preparing an index of all county roads from which we hope to obtain additional information. They have begun at the present and are working backwards, having now completed their work as far back as 1770.

The following information concerning certain roads of the seventeenth century is arranged in the following order for convenience in mentioning them.

Bedford Street (including Kilby Street) is described as a highway from the West End into the town by John Russell's in 1680.

Burlington Street, in some of its portions, would appear to be a highway as early as 1648, and an attempt was made to rectify its laying out in 1652.

Cross Street would appear to be laid out in 1647, as the highway from the "three Richardsons' to the town meeting house," etc.

Garden Street is the modern equivalent of an ancient highway probably as old as any of the earlier streets of

Woburn. It was probably a part or offshoot of the ancient Up Street.

Kilby Street. See Bedford Street of which it was formerly a part.

Lake Avenue is probably one of the most ancient streets in Woburn.

Locust Street is a part of ancient Military Lane, laid out in 1644.

Middle Street is probably the Standfast Street of 1673. In 1770 it was the road leading to Reading.

Montvale Ave., near the Common, was a part of the ancient Hilly Way, 1673.

New Boston Street, a part of the old Reading Road mentioned in 1646.

Pleasant Street and Common Street were in 1644, a part of Military Lane: a part of Pleasant Street was the ancient High Street of 1673, on which Rev. Thomas Carter's lands were situated.

Washington Street in the part near the Winchester line, is identical with the East Street named in 1652.

KING'S FORD, 1646.

Locality, Winchester. At present Whitney's Mill.

MEETING-HOUSE, first named in records of town 1646.

The first meeting-house stood till 1672. Location, on Common Street, and opposite the Armory building.

IPSWICH RIVER, 1647.

In former Woburn bounds.

RAG ROCK, first mentioned by name, 1648.

WYMAN'S LANE (now Wyman Street) first mentioned as a highway, 1649.

One of the most important thoroughfares of ancient date. Here some of the principal farms were situated, and some of the best land in the settlement was found.

WATERING PLACE, on Wyman Street, 1649.

Nearly opposite house of Mr. Edmund C. Colman at 71 Wyman Street. This watering-place was in use in the present century. Formerly a way, or lane, led to it.

[*Note*. The first mention of Woburn in the County Court Records is 1655.

1658. The county records of this date contain an extract from the town records of Woburn, dated 24d. 2m. 1649, relating to a highway to the town mill. This town way was altered by order of the court of the above date to conform to new lines, so as to lead into a highway leading to Up Street.

1661. Woburn was ordered to repair the highway to Billerica under penalty of five pounds fine.

1663. A committee was appointed to lay out a highway through Medford from Woburn to Medford.

At the time of making these researches the County Records from 1664 to 1671, inclusive, are out of their usual place and could not be consulted.

1672. Woburn ordered to repair Mistick Bridge.

1673. Return of committee for settling the highway between Cambridge and Medford leading towards Woburn by the mill on Mistick River, received and placed on file. Later in this year, a committee was appointed to settle the highway between Mistick and Woburn.

1674. Committee appointed to view a highway and lay it out between Woburn, Reading and Andover. Later in the same year the above committee submitted their report.

1683. Committee appointed to rectify and settle highway between Woburn and Reading.

1684. Committee appointed to lay out a highway and road between Woburn and Medford as far as the bridge over Mistick River. In 1685, the above committee make their report.

1692. Selectmen of Woburn ordered to repair the bridge at Converse's mill.

1694. Woburn ordered to repair the highway to Billerica.

1696. Highway from Woburn to Cambridge through "Caleb Brooks his land" is allowed.

These are all the details of information in the County Court Records regarding Woburn roads in the seventeenth century that are now available. Communicated by Henry S. Adams, of Cambridge.]

Note. In the index of places to printed copy of Woburn Records, vol. I, are many names assigned to streams, highways, elevations, localities, lots, houses bridges, mills and swamps, whose location the records partly explain. As many of these are not now included in the territory which is in the city of Woburn, their enumeration would be of no benefit to the historic sites committee. Some of the oldest of these names are here mentioned, principally with the design of showing their antiquity. This division concludes the list of localities connected with the early settlement of Woburn, mention of which is found previous to 1650, but not all that belong to that century and not all that had an existence before 1650, of which no mention is found till after that date.

BERRY MEADOW, 1647. North Woburn. Lying southerly of Mountain Street and westerly of Main Street. The name has survived to the present. It was near and adjoining to John Lilly's house, 1701. Berry Meadow Brook watering-place was mentioned at that time. The brook was also near Nathaniel Tay's house (afterwards William Tay's place) in 1701.

BOGGY MEADOW, 1643. Boggy Meadow Field was first a common field—common, meaning common property,—and was named Friendly Field, before it was called by the name of Boggy Meadow Field. Location, an unknown area in the northeasterly part of Woburn, a portion of which was in the vicinity of the present Chemical Works. The recent State map of Massachusetts by its contour interval of 100 feet shows an elevation of 100 feet above sea level which would represent in our judgment the "Island," so called, near the swamp in Boggy Meadow field, between that and Step Rock, as stated in the early records. This would verify the location above given near the Chemical Works portion. See ISLAND.

BUCK MEADOW, 1647. Land on both sides of that portion of the Aberjona River near Richardson's Mill (Middle Street) North Woburn, near Reading line—the stream in that neighborhood being sometimes called Buck Meadow River in early times. The name is derived from the deer, and not from the family, which did not settle in Woburn till some years later.

HART'S HOLE, OR HOLT, MEADOW, earliest mention 1656,—a somewhat similar designation, but of an entirely different location, is situated not far from the Buck Meadow of antiquity, and in the limits of North Woburn, where it is to be found on the land of William Hall, on the easterly part of that land, being, according to the estimate of Mr. E. C. Bourne, an engineer, in 1889, about 350 feet northeast of a point on School Street, and 1600 feet east of the corner of School with Merrimac Streets, and containing about 3½ acres.

BULL MEADOW, 1649. An old name for two localities, one near the Cambridge, now the Lexington line. The particulars of these lots is mentioned in the first volume of Woburn Records, page 15.

DRUM MEADOW, 1650. Alluded to by name, and but once, in the earliest town records. An undetermined locality.

DUNHAM'S HOUSE, about 1645,—DUNHAM'S LOT—DUNHAM'S POND—are named for John Dunham, the owner of an early lot, afterwards belonging to Francis Wyman. Location, on the way to New Bridge. Dunham's house is named as such in the records in 1672, and, in 1675, under the title of "New Bridge Highway," the selectmen agreed that the highway from Dunham's lot to New Bridge "shall lie ten pole wide." This part of Main Street was called the "road to Andover" in deeds as late as 1828. In 1679, Henry Summers's land from the town was laid out for him, bounded on the highway "leading from Dunham's lot to Boggy Meadow." In these early times a swamp is mentioned as next a lot, "lately belonging to John Dunham." Dunham's Pond was on the same lot. This pond is indicated on a map of Woburn in 1794, but it long since passed out of existence. It covered 8 acres, according to the 1794

map, and its basin is still to be seen near Ward Wyman's present house at Central Square, the pond having been drained many years ago by Abel Wyman, the father of Ward Wyman, who owned the premises at that time. The pond was located on elevated ground, some distan e from the main street, and was a retired spot surrounded by woods and much frequented by wild duck at certain seasons of the year. The water was shallow and wading easy and hunters could gather in that manner the ducks they had shot.

The Dunham lot is interesting in another way as the site of an iron mine which more than a century ago was mined for that ore. On one occasion, in 1772-73, an amount equalling 43 tons was taken from the spot by Moses and Elijah Sargent, persons from out of town. Benjamin Wyman, who then owned the land, boarded the men at his house, the largest number employed at one time being six. A spring near the highway in the Dunham "pasture," still exists, highly impregnated with iron, and the soil near it is discolored by that mineral. A few further particulars regarding this subject are given in the "Winchester Record," vol. ii., pp. 422-24.

Though the identity of John Dunham has not been otherwise connected with Woburn, except by the birth of a daughter here in 1645, yet his name as connected with this lot was extant in 1798, and has survived to the present century. Whence he came and where he went does not appear. The daughter, Patience, was born in Woburn, March 8, 1645.

FOREST FIELD, 1644. In Burlington, including the hill on which is situated the meetinghouse.

FROG HOLE, 1648. Near Buck Meadow of antiquity, and on the line of the steam railroad, about midway between Walnut Hill and Mishawum Stations.

GREAT MEADOW, 1648. Watered by present Vine Brook, in Burlington near the Lexington line.

ISLAND, THE, 1657: adjoining New Bridge Field. It was also near the swamp in Boggy Meadow Field, between that and Step Rock. Gershom Flagg was granted an "island" at Step Rock in 1684, evidently referring to the same. It is not far from the South Wilming-Station, so called, on the line of the steam railroad, and to the north of present Merrimac Street. The recent State map by its contour interval of 100 feet, meaning the height above mean sea level, shows an elevation of 100 feet at this spot, which is intended to represent the elevation we have under consideration, known as the "Island," but not as an island surrounded by water, but as an island surrounded by swamp or level land. This distinction was quite common in the days of the early fathers; and much to our pleasure, the name of this particular spot has clung to it to the present century, for among the Thompson plans in the Public Library is one by Cyrus Thompson, of date 1853, in which a portion of the "Island" is shown by that name in a plan of the Converse meadow at that spot.

LONG MEADOW, 1648. Near Long Meadow Brook in Burlington, shown on modern maps. It is not, however, Long's Meadow, which is the same as the Town Meadow at Woburn Centre, which derives its name from Robert Long's allotment of 1638, from Charlestown.

LOOSE MEADOW, 1648. Near the Reading line of that date, or on the east side of the town. It was in the second division near Shred Pine.

MAPLE MEADOW, 1648. Maple Meadow River is still shown by that name on maps. Locality of meadow southwesterly part of Wilmington, mostly.

MILL ROCK MEADOW, 1648. Another name for Millstone Meadow; located partly in Woburn and partly in Burlington; westerly of the present village of North Woburn.

MOUNT DISCOVERY, 1648. A height in the present bounds of Stoneham, but adjoining the Woburn line, near the village of Montvale.

MOUNT PLAINUM OR PLAYNUM, 1648. The well known elevation in Burlington

limits, but near the "plain" in Cummingsville, from which it derives its name. This spot was famous in the seventeenth century for the attempts to procure minerals from it; hence its names of "Mine Hill" or "Mineral Hill" and "Copper Mountain," etc.

PARLEY MEADOW, 1647. Next to Reading line. Parley Meadow Brook was a part of it, whence the "north and by west line between Reading and Woburn" had its starting place, "to run five miles from the corner bounds at Parley Meadow." The junction of the present boundary lines of Woburn, Stoneham and Reading show the spot. As a considerable irregularity of outline existed here, it was doubtless in early times the subject of a sharp controversy, and hence the name of "Parley" Meadow, or the place where the discussion evidently was held.

PINE MEADOW, 1648. In a locality which was first in a part of Woburn then in Burlington, and lastly set off to Lexington from Burlington in 1799.

PLAIN FIELD, 1644. The level tract in the westerly section of present Winchester.

ROCK MEADOW, 1648. Much the same as Little Rock Meadow of the same date. In Burlington, neighborhood of Lexington line.

ROUND MEADOW, 1649. Locality—Burlington. It was in the sixth division of 1668. The sixth division was all the wood and timber on the southerly side of the path that went to Forest Field Hill, and then along the lots to the south end of them, and thence to Long Meadow, and along that meadow to a line from the south end to the "new path that goeth from the said meadow to Robert Pierce's, and so to Michael Bacon's house."

SETTLE MEADOW, 1648. Next Cedar Swamp, in Wilmington. Ladder Pole Swamp bordered upon Settle Meadow Brook, and the former is mentioned in the records as near Cedar Swamp, and Settle Meadow Brook also was near Maple Meadow River.

SHRED PINE, 1648. In the same section of Woburn as Frog Hole, Buck Meadow, and Boggy Meadow. A highway to Shred Pine Meadow, or to a swamp lying at the head of it was ordered to be laid out "with all speed," in 1651. The locality, it will be noticed, was on the east side of the town, in what was called the second division of the early settlement in the distribution of public lands to private persons. The second division in one place bounded easterly on Reading line, near which Shred Pine was and is. Step Rock, earliest menti n 1651, is in the same general locality as Shred Pine, and can be seen to-day not far from the line of the railway, at a point a little way north of Richardson's Mill, and near the Merrimac Chemical Works.

TURKEY HILL, 1650. The location of William Johnson's old Sawmill (1680) in present Shaker Glen, in the westerly part of present Woburn. The wild turkey was an abundant bird at the time of the first settlement of this section, but soon disappeared with the increase of the white inhabitants. The Indians used to hedge them in while hunting them and this mill may have been one of the hedging places. Flocks of these birds were once so abundant that the colonists could shoot them from their very doors, so close did they come to them in their flight.

The following places are arranged in the order of their mention.

NEW BRIDGE, first mentioned 1656, another name for the present village of North Woburn and the locality near the bridge (whence the name was derived) over the stream, now the Middlesex Canal, at the point near the Baldwin mansion and estate, and the steam railroad crossing. The stream originally was a part of the Aberjona River, and like many of the streams in this vicinity, was at the time of the early settlement of greater dimensions than now. It is supposed this bridge was called "New Bridge" to distinguish it from some older bridge in another locality of the town. New Bridge Hill is adjacent to it.

BLIND BRIDGE, earliest mention found, 1659. Located back of Mr. Sullivan

Cutter's present house in Winchester. Main street formerly crossed it. The bridge is remembered by persons now living. It was an old way by which the street crossed the stream at that place, and the bridge being concealed from general view by a considerable undergrowth and the way to it being obscure and winding, the name was given it of Blind Bridge, i. e., obscure bridge. It is undoubtedly the bridge built over the Horn Pond River in 1641, —the second, or Long Bridge, described in the early records, and whose building was a difficult undertaking.

FIRST BURYING GROUND, earliest mention, 1662; earliest stone, 1690. Its use is supposed to be coeval with the settlement of the town. Location.—Park street, Woburn Centre.

INDIAN HILL, 1663. Location.—westerly part of Winchester, on Winchester Hill so called: one of the highest points there. More particulars are given in the sketch of Winchester, in Lewis & Co.'s Hist. of Midd. County, vol. ii., pp. 747-48.

TRAINING FIELD, 1665. Location.—present Woburn Common, including also the piece traversed by Winn street, between the present Unitarian and Baptist church edifices. On the Winn street portion military companies were formed for parade till after the beginning of the present century, and the whole common was used for training purposes.

HUNGRY PLAIN,—otherwise, HUNGRAY PLAIN—1668. A name that has descended to the present. Locality.—partly in Woburn and partly in Burlington, traversed by the southerly portion of Pearl street.

WOOD HILL, 1668. Another name of the present time. Location, Burlington, on line of Wilmington and Woburn.

BELL HILL, 1678; otherwise known in the seventeenth century as the "Rock" and "Mount Seir." In 1812 the town powder-house was built upon it, and hence it acquired its present name of Powder House Hill. It adjoins the Central House estate on the north. The bell for the church-going public of the early time was placed on this hill, so that it could be better heard; hence the name Bell Hill. It was common for many meeting houses then to have a belfry separate from the structure and placed on some convenient hill adjacent, and Woburn would appear from this name to have adopted the custom.

WOOD BRIDGE, 1680. Not far from northwest side of "Horn Pond Hill," in 1680.

WORLD'S END, 1683, a name not uncommon in other towns. In the "west part of Woburn," near the Cambridge line, then so called, now the Lexington line. The locality is now in Lexington, it is supposed, in that portion of Burlington, formerly a part of Woburn, which was set off to Lexington in 1799.

HAPPY END, 1690, probably the happiness and contentment of its inhabitants. A name found in deeds of property now in Burlington; but described at the close of the seventeenth century as in the "West End of Woburn," in a place "commonly called Happy End:" the neighborhood, it would appear of present Cambridge street and "Walkers's Lane," or vicinity.

BRUSH'S LANE, 1694.—Brush, i. e., Bruce. Named for George Brush, or Bruce, who lived near the junction of present Locust and Burlington streets, near Cummingsville. The lane was a part of present Burlington street, being the highway in 1694, from George Brush's house to "Billerica Road" near "Mount Plainum." The history of this lane as a highway is of much earlier date than the above, it being a very old road, flourishing under different names at different times.

LEPPENWELL'S LANE, 1695. Named for the Leppenwell or Leppingwell family of Woburn. The lane whatever it was, was near "Rag Rock Hill." Another name connected with this early family is Leppenwell's or Leppinwell's Bridge. A meadow bearing the name of Lippinwell's Bridge meadow, belonging to Edward Richardson, is mentioned in the list of his estate in 1798. It is located near Richardson's Mill and the

name is still in use. A common spelling of this name is Lepingwell.

In closing this section of our work attention is called to one or more facts of general interest concerning Woburn. Its latitude is 42° 29′ north; longitude, 71° 9′, west from Greenwich. There are in the present limits of Woburn several elevations over 200 feet in height above mean sea level, according to the results obtained by the United States Coast and Geoditic survey. Listening Hill, the highest point, attains a height of 300 feet above sea level. The earliest mention we have found of the name "Listening Hill," is 1720, in an unrecorded deed, in which the "old Sawmill dam" and "upper millpond" are mentioned (Never's Papers, Woburn Public Library); the dam and pond being located in the present Shaker Glen, where their remains may be seen. Whispering Hill is sometimes confounded with Listening Hill being a part or extension of the same elevation. This is undoubtedly an old name also. Another old name connected with a family which early settled in, but soon disappeared, from Woburn, is that of "Learned's Falls," 1706, near Wood Hill Brook, near line of Woburn and Burlington and Wilmington. These falls are described in a Zebadiah Wyman conveyance of 1748, as on or near the New Bridge-Road, meaning some road from the Wood Hill locality to the present village of North Woburn. The name of Listening Hill and Learned's Falls are of much greater antiquity apparently than the dates of their earliest mention above given would indicate.

Horn Pond Mountain attains a height of 260 feet above mean sea level, and Rag Rock attains a height of 200 feet only above mean sea level. Their apparent height, is, of course, much less.

The foregoing division is merely a contribution and from it we shall pass to an attempt to show where the signers of the original town orders of 1640 lived. These town orders were the compact by which the town was to be founded, being practically a code of by-laws for their government.

II. Localities of the Residences of Signers to the Original Town Orders of 1640, and Their Condition in 1800.

1. Edward Johnson. In 1800, his homestead estate was owned by Obadiah Kendall. It consisted of "one very old dwelling house, 2 stories high, 45 by 18; 15 windows, 98 feet of glass; no outhouses; with the land on which it stands." With the dwelling was "one farm, with a barn, 40 by 30, and good gristmill thereon." The farm contained 100 acres, bounded at that time, S. on Dea. Winn's farm, W. on Benjamin Smith, N. and elsewhere on the town roads. The gristmill had one pair of stones, and, in 1800, as a marginal reference says, "goes 7 months in a year." This is the present J. R. Kendall estate on Cambridge street, West Woburn. The "one very old dwelling house" may have been, we may imagine, the habitation of Edward Johnson.

2. Edward Converse (builder of the first house.) In 1800, his homestead estate was owned by Abel Richardson. It consisted of one house, 35 by 30; 19 windows; 2 stories in front, one in rear, and the land on which the house stood. On the estate was one old woodhouse, 10 by 12, and a chaise house, 13 by 8. The farm contained 30 acres, bounded W. on the Great Road, N. on the River and

Caleb Swan, E. on Reading Road, S. on Jonathan Wyman. There were other pieces of property, including the grist mill with its one pair of stones. The house has been assumed to be the original house of Edward Converse (1640) and it stood on the place latterly B. F. Thompson's and his son's, on Main Street, Winchester Centre.

3. JOHN MOUSALL (builder of the first house in the present limits of Woburn.) In 1800, that part of his estate containing his house was owned by Widow Susanna Brooks, her occupant being Samuel Watts. It was a dwelling house, 30 by 18; with 6 windows, and the quarter of an acre of land on which the house stood. The house was described (in 1800) as "old and poor." N. A. Richardson, who well remembers this house, says that it was the precise counterpart of another old house, called the "Dean House," which stood in his boyhood, in that part of Woburn which is now called Winchester. The Dean House was described in 1800, as a dwelling house, 34 by 18, with 6 windows; the description including the land on which the house stood and 17 acres adjacent. The house standing in 1800 was undoubtedly John Mousall's original house. Its location was on the rectangular piece of ground in front of the Second Burying Ground, the estate being now numbered 23 Montvale Avenue to which it belongs.

4, 5, and 6. EZEKIEL RICHARDSON, SAMUEL RICHARDSON, THOMAS RICHARDSON, brothers. Locality of residence of all, in Winchester, on or near present Washington street formerly Richardson's Row; or Reading road, from present Winchester Centre.

Thomas Richardson would appear to have occupied the late John S. Richardson's estate on the above street. This estate in 1800 was known as the "Ben place," from a Benjamin Richardson who had shortly before occupied it. In 1798 (or 1800) it was a part of the property of Jeduthun Richardson and is described as follows in the schedule of his landed estate: "The Ben place, so called, *One old house*, 40 by 18, area 720 square feet; 10 windows, 84 square feet of glass; the house 2 stories; with 40 square perch of land adjoining said house, bounded west on the road leading to Reading. One barn, 25 feet by 16, *old and poor with a lean-to almost fallen down.*" The description of house and barn would convey the impression that the original house and barn of Thomas Richardson, the early settler, were standing in 1800, and probably later.

The equivalent of the original Samuel Richardson estate is the Job Miller estate. This descended from Samuel (1), to Samuel (2), thence to Jonathan (3), thence to Jonathan (4) Richardson, who bequeathed it to his niece, Sarah Miller, wife of Job Miller. Jonathan Richardson, who was born in Woburn, lived elsewhere during a part of his life, but returning to Woburn, died there, Oct. 31, 1798, or shortly after the enumeration of 1798, above quoted. The Job Miller estate, in 1798, was owned by Jonathan Richardson and occupied by Job Miller. It consisted of 1 house, 36 by 18; 2 stories high: 9 windows: *the house old.* The farm of 50 acres was bounded N. on heirs' of Zachariah Richardson, W. on the River, S. on the Watts place, E. on Zachariah Richardson. It was on this estate that the family of Samuel (2)

Richardson were attacked by Indians on April 10, 1676, and three of them killed. Samuel Richardson on the afternoon of that day, while at work in his field, having a young son with him, noticed a commotion at his house, and hastening thither, found his wife Hannah and son Thomas had been killed by a skulking band of Indians, who on their retreat after robbing some gardens, at Cambridge, of linen articles, performed this mischief and slaughter. On further search, Samuel's infant daughter, Hannah, was also found killed. A nurse had fled with it in her arms to a neighboring garrison house, but being pursued by the savages, to save herself, dropped the babe, which the Indians killed. The father, rallying a party, pursued and shot at the Indians, as they sat by the side of a swamp, causing them to drop their bundle of linen, in which was found wrapped up the scalps of one or more of their victims. From traces of blood afterwards found in the woods, it is supposed one of the Indians had been hit when fired upon, and the body of one was found, buried with leaves, where his associates had laid it after death.

The above murder of three persons, with the murder of a girl by an Indian, in the part of Woburn now Burlington, in 1670, and the killing of an Indian, by a white man, on the training-field at Woburn Centre, in October, 1675, are all the deaths in connection with Indian troubles that occurred within the limits of Woburn itself in the seventeenth century, that we have account of, aside from such deaths as may have occurred from exposure in the military service. Woburn appears to have lost in battle in King Philip's War, 1675-76, one man killed and had seven men wounded. In a later Indian War, in 1690, two more Woburn men were killed in an engagement at Wheelwright's Pond, in New Hampshere. After 1701 occurred losses of her sons at Dunstable, 1724, three killed, and Lovewell's Fight, 1725, one killed and three wounded, and these were all that suffered in battle with the Indians in this immediate vicinity, or in this particular part of New England.

Mr. Nathaniel A. Richardson, of Winchester, from whom we have received some very useful hints in relation to the location of the houses of the original Richardsons, states that the estate of the first Samuel is now traversed by Prince Avenue in Winchester; that the "Miller Place" is now the Smith place. The estate of the first Samuel, according to his statement, extended from the Lowell Railroad, to Stoneham line, being now the J. F. Stone place, and other lands besides, a part now being owned by Mr. N. A. Richardson. The Job Miller house was built by the second Samuel, he whose family suffered in the Indian foray, but, according to Mr. Richardson, the first Samuel lived on the other side of the street from this in a little valley, his house having disappeared before the year 1800.

Ezekiel Richardson, one of the three brothers, lived on the spot occupied by the Wetherby house. At the time of his death (1647) he left a house which his wife was to enjoy as long as she lived. She married Henry Brooks and with him removed elsewhere in the town. The son Theophilus, who died in 1674, appears to have acquired the house, and ten acres of land "about house" are mentioned in his inventory. His widow married John Brooks, a son of Henry Brooks, and re-

moved elsewhere in the town. Theophilus was probably succeeded by his son John Richardson, who died in 1749. John's son, Dea. Nathan Richardson, probably succeeded him. He died 1775 and was followed, evidently, by his son Nathan, who died in 1817, aged 92 years and 5 months. He was followed by his son Abel, not the Abel, of the Converse place at Winchester Centre. Abel, son of Nathan died 1824. His son Richard Richardson occupied the farm which had belonged to his father, and was killed by the fall of a tree in the woods, Nov. 11, 1848, aged 55 years.

Nathan Richardson, owner of the above estate, had in 1800:—one dwelling house, 38 feet by 28: 11 windows; the house 2 stories in front, one in rear; evidently the house of his father Dea. Nathan Richardson, who was an important man in the town of Woburn; the house being a more modern built house than that built by the first Ezekiel Richardson. In the description of 1798 (i. e. 1800) it is said of this house that the "backside wants covering." The farm, containing 71 acres was bounded (in 1798) W. on the heirs of Zebadiah Wyman, N. on Jacob Wright, Zachariah Richardson, and Jedidhun Richardson, and E. on Stoneham line. With the place was a barn, 30 by 30; and "*one very old barn*," evidently a relic of the original Ezekiel estate. There were other buildings and other land, but of no interest in this connection.

The positions taken in this paper are quite fully confirmed by a deed, which has twice before been published, viz: in Johnson's "Abstract of Early Woburn Deeds," 8vo. p. 7; and Rev. Leander Thompson's article on the "Three Richardsons," Winchester Record, vol. ii. p. 207. It is as follows: "Samuel Richardson having formerly sold unto Ezekiel Richardson, my brother (who is since deceased) forty acres of arable and meadow land in Woburn, on that side of the town towards Reading, the land is bounded south by some land of mine, Samuel Richardson's, also it is bounded north by some land of Thomas Richardson's our brother; it is also bounded westerly by a running brook, and easterly by the common; do now resign up the same to my sister, Susanna Brooks (who was wife of my deceased brother, Ezekiel Richardson) for her lifetime, and after her decease then to my cousin Theophilus Richardson and his heirs. But if he does not come to age then to be divided between the surviving children of Ezekiel and Susanna Richardson," March 27, 1651.

The "running brook" mentioned in the above deed, is the Aberjona River. The word "cousin," in the above, is used in the sense of nephew, a common use of the word at that date.

The above transfer is further confirmed by a deed from Henry Brooks and his wife Susanna, by an award, to Theophilus Richardson, of all their right to a half part of the housing and lands, late Ezekiel Richardson's, of Woburn, Dec. 13, 1659.

Thus Theophilus Richardson and his heirs acquired possession of his father's estate. Its further descent has already been shown.

It may be interesting to give some account of Henry Brooks and his wife Susanna, the latter being the widow of the above mentioned Ezekiel Richardson, one of the three brothers Richardson, who helped to first settle Woburn.

HENRY BROOKS resided on or near the

spot, lately known as the Jefferson House estate, or 40 Main Street, at the corner of Main Street and Lake Avenue in Woburn. He was an early settler here, but not a signer of the town orders. His wife Susanna, who had been the widow of Ezekiel Richardson, as a physician, effected a celebrated cure of an Indian girl, who had been nearly killed by the Indians, the cure being effected between the years 1670 and 1674. The history of his house may be traced to William Brackenbury, late of Charlestown, who conveys to Henry Brooks of Woburn, 6 parcels of upland and meadow, containing 178 acres, at a place commonly called Horn Pond, together with one *housframe*; one parcel of the said land being the proper inheritance of the said William Brackenbury, containing by estimation 46 acres, adjoining to the land of John Crowe, gent., southeast, and to the land of William Nash, northwest, 1650. The other lots are described separately. Brooks also acquired other lands in the immediate vicinity and his estate was occupied by certain of his descendants till the present century. He came to Woburn from Concord and died in 1683. His wife Susanna, died in 1681. None of the births of their children are on Woburn records, and Brooks may have had an earlier wife than Susanna. After Susanna's death, he married, in the following year, Annis Jaquith. Six days after this marriage he made his will, and died in about nine months afterward. The descendants of Henry Brooks are a distinct family from the well-known Brooks family of Medford.

The circumstances of the remarkable cure performed by Susanna Brooks are as follows:—In 1670, a marauding party of Mohawks,—probably a small company, four or five in number,—lying in ambush as was their wont, by a pathside near an Indian habitation, upon the north side of the Merrimac River, near present Lowell, met some Indians in the woods, who were members of one of our comparatively inoffensive local tribes, the spot being not far from some houses of the English. These Indians the Mohawks surprised from their place of concealment, by falling upon them while they were travelling in the pathway and killed some of them and captured others whom they also killed. Among those captured was a young Indian girl about fourteen years old. She fell a victim with the rest to the murderous violence of the Mohawks who scalped her and broke her skull and left her for dead. Some of the Indians who escaped gave the alarm to their village and a party of men went forth with them to bring off the bodies of the killed. On their arrival at the spot this child was found with life in her, so they carried her to the village and got Lieut. Thomas Henchman of the English, who held the office of an inspector over them, to use such means as he could for her recovery; and though he had but little hope, yet he took the best care he could till it was convenient to send the girl to Woburn, about ten miles distant, to an ancient and skilful woman living there, called Goodwife Brooks, to induce her to use her best endeavors to effect a recovery. The child was sent to Mrs. Brooks and she succeeded in effecting a cure, though it took about two years or more to do so. Gen. Gookin, who relates this incident in his contemporary memoirs of the Indians of New England, says he was at Goodwife Brooks' house in May, 1673, when the

child was being cured, and Mrs. Brooks showed him two or morepieces of the skull which she had taken from the child's head and on May 2, 1674, with Rev. John Eliot, the far-famed Indian apostle, and Mr. Richard Daniel, a gentleman, and others, happening to be in the vicinity where the maid then was, they all saw the child alive and well, examined her head, which was whole, except, as he says, a little spot as big as a sixpence, and the child was large and strong; but, as in similar cases, no hair grew again on the head where the scalp was flayed off. This cure in those days was considered by the best authorities of those times as something extraordinary and wonderful, and, indeed, we have no reason to consider it otherwise, under the circumstances and the want of modern appliances of travel and surgery in a primitive wilderness. If in our estimation the people of past times did not know everything, they certainly knew something, the above case being an example of it, and we may justly place it among the most remarkable events that happened in the early history of Woburn.

In 1678 the homestead estate of Henry Brooks is described thus: one dwelling house, barn, stables, outhousing, in Woburn, at a place called South Street; the land by estimation being 100 and—acres, bounded by land of heirs of Samuel Converse south; by land of Mr. Wade southwest; of Caleb Farlow west: parted by the river that runneth out of Horn Pond, about 60 pole; then by the land of Caleb Farlow north, and land of James Converse west, and by Horn Pond west; by land of John Brooks north, and land of John Mousall and John Brooks northeast and east, and the land of Theophilus Richardson east.

In 1798, the homestead was diminished to the following estate: Capt. Nathaniel Brooks—one house, 34 by 30; 16 windows; house 2 stories in front, one in rear; shed, 20 by 9; and 20 perch of land on which the house stands. The old place, so called, containing 16 acres, and 20 acres on Horn Pond Hill. The farm of 20 acres, with a barn thereon, was bounded N. on Josiah Fowle and Doctor Plympton, W. on Horn Pond and the mill ditch, S. on Esquire Ingraham, E. on said Ingraham.

7. WILLIAM LEARNED. Had a house-lot of 6 acres before 1645, but dying 1646, his son Isaac acquired the benefit, who, in 1652, sold the house and lands to Bartholomew Pearson of Watertown, removed to Chelmsford and died 1657. This ended the connection of the Learned family with the estate, which, when sold, consisted of one dwelling house, barn, out houses, and 78 acres: the house and 7 acres of the land being at a place called East Street, the whole bounded by Henry Tottingham west and by south, by James Converse west and by north, by Robert Cutler north and by east, and by Mr. Thomas Graves east. Washington Street, in present Montvale, is the East Street mentioned. This lot is mentioned in a deed of 1650, in such a manner as to show that a part of it, at least, was on the easterly side of the Aberjona River. In 1657 a committee was appointed to look on the land of Bartholomew Pearson "lately taken in," and to consider the ancient bound marks, and to make report to the town, that the bounds "may be settled between the

town and him." This would imply that his lot was an outer lot; otherwise, to be half a mile from the town boundary line, i. e., the line between Woburn and present Stoneham and Reading; this, in accordance with a provision in the grant of the General Court in 1640, that this line should be half a mile from the private lots in the nearest place; the land in between to be public land, called the Common, where the cattle of the neighboring householders could be pastured according to the right entitled "benefit of common," though the land otherwise, in that early period, was to remain undivided. The village was to allow, also, so much land "as shall be taken in," more than the straight line. Bartholomew Pearson and his son-in-law, John Richardson, appear to own his estate in common in 1675. Again, in 1681, a committee made return about settling the bounds of 14 acres of his land. In their return they say that they have settled the bounds of two parcels of land, namely. 14 acres belonging to Bartholomew Pearson, and the other a little plain reserved in the town's hands for an officer; they laid out to John Richardson, attorney for said Pearson, 14 acres of land; and they measured the other parcel, and found it about 8 acres, allowing 2 poles for the country highway; they also viewed a tract of land at "Bartholomew Pearson's, old house," and found "by the neighbors, the bounds, difficult," and advised they be settled speedily, "or the town may suffer damage."

This would appear to be a renewal of the old trouble of 1657, and would show that Richardson and Pearson had a newer estate in 1681. In 1683 there were laid out to Bartholomew Pearson 9 acres of swamp bottom, adjoining to his own land in a swamp near his house, bounded by Michael Lepingwell's land south and the upland elsewhere, and again in 1685 there was divided to him his share of woodland, being a part of the second division, lying on the east side of the town near Loose Meadow Brook, by estimation 80 acres, bounded east by his own land, north by Reading line, and west by Loose Meadow and Shred Pine' and south by Shred Pine path. These latter descriptions are probably references to another estate than the Learned estate.

One difficulty with John Richardson, the successor of Pearson, is that he had several different estates, all located in the same quarter of the town. Thus his mother, Joanna Richardson, widow of Samuel, in 1678, granted him one dwelling house, barn, orchard, and 86 acres of land, purchased by her husband of John Palmer, this land bounding on Aberjona River northeast, and extending northwest to Buck Meadow, and to lands of R. Cutler, W. Wetherell, and G. Bunker, southwest; and to the land of John Harvard southeast; excepting 10 acres reserved for his brother Joseph Richardson, bounded N. on Henry Tottingham. and W. by Bartholomew Pearson. To Joseph, the widow had granted 55 acres, which her husband had purchased of John March, situated "on the east side of the town," bounded by the Aberjona River south; Widow Frothingham east: and northwest to the common lands of Woburn. In 1683 the town laid out to Joseph Richardson, 4 1-4 acres of swamp bottom adjoining to his own land, and bounded by the highway leading to Reading, beginning at Charlestown Corner, or the corner now represented by the junction

of Woburn, Stoneham and Reading town lines. This would show that the March purchase extended to that point.

Then, in 1679, Elijah Tottingham sells to John Richardson the estate "being the old house and barn," in which Henry Tottingham, deceased, formerly lived This estate of 8 acres was then bounded E. and N. by land of Bartholomew Pearson; W. by land of James Fowle and Abraham Jaquith; and S. by the highway. In 1682, the same Elijah Tottingham mortgages to Bartholomew Pearson, 5 acres of meadowland in Buck Meadow. This John Richardson, who, in 1694, was called Lieut., owned land that bounded west on Benjamin Butterfield's 5½ acres houselot, afterwards Abraham Jaquith's, in that year. This land of Richardson's was the lot that was Henry Tottingham's houselot above mentioned. Until further information is obtained, we must drop the subject here, with nothing more definite than the general locality where the estate is to be looked for, namely somewhere in the limits of present Moutvale.

8. JAMES THOMPSON. Rev. Leander Thompson, in his "Thompson Memorial," shows that the house of James Thompson stood in the southwesterly part of Mr. Rufus Poole's garden, traces of the house being remembered by the oldest citizens. This is near the junction of Elm and Traverse streets at North Woburn. In 1800 the land belonged to Jabez Thompsou, who, in 1798, lived in a house of one story, 20 by 18; 4 windows: with farm of 28 acres adjoining. This latter house, which stood on the site of Mrs. Albert Thompsoa's house, Elm street, was occupied by Thomas Poole, son-in-law of Jabez Thompson, in 1820, but, being old, was pulled down, after 1832, to make room for the house now occupied by Mrs. Thompson.

9. JOHN WRIGHT. No idea of the location of his house is given in his will, of date 1684. The estate has been supposed and doubtless with correctness, to be the present Woburn Alms House estate, on Middle street, one of the most ancient highways in Woburn. In 1800 (or 1798) the house on this estate was owned by two persons: Josiah Wright, senior, and junior: the halves were 20 by 30, and the house had 15 windows, and was of 2 stories. It was also *old and poor*. The barn was described as "uot tenable." The farm of 31 acres was bounded W. on the road [Middle street] and on Josiah Wright, jr., S. on Elisha Tottingham and James Fowle's heirs; and E. and N. on Andrew Evans. The above description shows that there existed here in 1800, an old and dilapidated estate, evidently the original estate and buildings of the early settler John Wright.

10. MICHAEL BACON. The house on his estate is not enumerated in the Woburn list of 1798 (1800) because its site was in Burlington, on the southwesterly corner of Cambridge street and "Walker's Lane." In 1686, Michael Bacon grants to his son-in-law Josiah Wood, then of Charlestown, all his real estate in housing and land, particularly his mansion house and houselot of 20 acres, bounded S. on Samuel Walker, E. on Benjamin Simonds, W. and N. on two highways (see above.) This house of Michael Bacon was a garrison house, during the Indian War of 1675-76, being the next garrison house to the Simonds house, the ancient house still standing at Cummingsville, latterly known as the Jesse Cutler house; but Goodman Bacon's house was more

"straitened" for garrison room than the "other place," Simonds's, according to a deposition of April, 1676, which would show that it was a smaller house than the large Simonds house yet standing.

11. JOHN SEARS. Owned a houselot adjoining Allen Converse's lot in 1654. On the other side was John Wright's houselot, not the lot we have already mentioned under his name, but another occupied by his son-in-law, Joshua Sawyer. In 1692, Sears gave this lot and his whole estate to his kinsman Daniel Baldwin, as a requital of the great cost and kindness he had shown to Sears in the time of his sickness, and for what he had further engaged to do for him and his wife, Ann Sears, during his life. Daniel Baldwin had contracted to maintain John Sears and Ann Sears, his grandparents, during the time that his "grandfather shall live," and in the house that "was John Sears's, and nowhere else." The estate included, in 1692, one dwelling house, barn, outhousing and 12 acres of land pertaining to the homestead, bounded W. by the town street, E. by James Converse's meadow, S. by Joshua Sawyer's land, that was formerly John Wright's, and N. by the land that was Allen Converse's homestead. It also included 3 or 4 acres which Sears had purchased of Allen Converse at the east corner of his homestead, and adjoining to Sears's own. As we have said in another case we must here drop the subject until further information is obtained.

12 and 13. JOHN WYMAN AND FRANCIS WYMAN, brothers. The houses "in the town," of these two brothers stood, it may be confidently asserted, somewhere near the junction of present Main and Wyman Streets; while they both had houses on their great farm next Billerica line, where one of the houses, built about 1666, is still standing, occupied by Joshua Reed, the place being now in Burlington.

The precise position of these houses it has been difficult to determine, and many facts of interest may be cited concerning them. In 1798, Jeremiah Clapp occupied an old house, apparently near the junction of Main and Wyman Streets, on the site, perhaps, of the one which afterwards fell, and killed and injured so many persons during its erection in 1807. The old house was 34 by 26; 2 stories; and 13 windows; with 40 rods of land adjoining the house. On a lot of 2 acres, near by, stood a barn, a tan house, a currying shop and sheds. There were other lots belonging to the estate; but this was not the house of Francis Wyman, the settler, but the house of Jacob Wyman, the youngest son of the above John Wyman; the house just described being evidently the same house in which John Wyman, the early settler lived.

Lieut. John Wyman, the first settler, died in 1684, and his widow Sarah married Thomas Fuller (32). Jacob Wyman, above mentioned, son of John, died in 1742. He was followed in ownership by his son Peter Wyman, whose name is identified with the estate. This Peter married Abigail Russell, about 1744, in Boston, and their daughter Susanna married Benjamin Edgell, whose name is still further identified with the adjoining estate, about to be described, and who probably disposed of this estate to Jeremiah Clapp, well-known as Major Clapp, who died in Woburn in 1817.

Thus the tanning establishment of the brothers John and Francis Wyman, which was in existence before 1675, is

here identified, as identical with the establishment of Clapp in 1798, and its vats are said to be still buried up in the hollow ground to the southwest of the present Main and Wyman Streets. It will be mentioned again under Benjamin Wyman (1737). It was coeval with the tanning establishment of Gersham Flagg, which was in existence before 1673, and extant till 1760; the establishment of Flagg being on a spot north of the present Woburn Common, and near the brook now traversed by Winn Street. The Wymans, at Central Square, drew their water for their tannery from a stream which formerly existed in the bed of the present Middlesex Canal, or what remains of it. Jacob Wyman, son of John, was a tanner, and an influential man. The above were the two earliest tanning establishments in Woburn.

Lieut. John Wyman was second officer of the only cavalry troop the English had in the celebrated Narragansett Fort Fight, on Dec. 19, 1675. This troop was attached to the Massachusstts infantry regiment organized for the campaign, and in the troop alone were twenty-one Woburn men, one of whom (John Wyman, son of the Lieut.) was killed in battle and three others wounded. For this campaign Woburn furnished at least eighty-three men. Thirteen men from the town were in one company of infantry, and in the cavalry she furnished three officers—one lieutenant and two corporals. During a scout about four days before the general battle, the cavalry made an attack on some Indians in their wigwams and killed a number of the enemy and made others prisoners. In this skirmish Lieut. Wyman received a slight wound by an arrow in the face. The wigwams were burned, and Lieut. Wyman's slight hurt was the only casualty the English received in this preliminary conflict. In the great battle itself Woburn lost one man, killed outright, and seven men wounded. One, a son of Francis Wyman, died soon after his return home, of exposure and hardship he had endured. In May, 1676, John Wyman petitioned the General Court for the release of his servant, Robert Simpson, from the military service. Simpson was then a garrison soldier at Hadley and needing clothes, and had been in the service all that winter. Wyman, after reciting his experience in the war, asked that Simpson might return to him, so that his leather, then in the vats, might not be spoiled.

Another incident connected with the Indian War of 1675-76 is related of John Wyman. The Indians having caused a stir very near Woburn, at Billerica, in April, 1676, by attempting an attack on the inhabitants, Capt. Cutler, of Charlestown, marched through Woburn on his way there with several soldiers, having the authority of the law to impress anything for the service, and demanded, in the person of John Sears, the Woburn constable, a horse belonging to Lieut. John Wyman. The process was resisted by both the Lieutenant and his daughter Bathsheba, and, according to the testimony of the constable,—violently so. The animal probably escaped being taken, but the father and the daughter for their belligerent opposition were afterwards fined by the court. The offense, too, was

especially exasperating, because it occurred at an exciting time. All were exasperated. The captain who failed to find the men and the horses that he wanted—3 of the former and 6 of the latter, from Woburn;—and the constable, because he was resisted in his duty, and because Wyman himself used very hard words and even exercised violence on the constable's person, to save a favorite animal. This resistance was more than ordinarily dangerous, because the constable in his statement says that he wished the General Court to enact such laws as would prevent hereafter such abuse, so that he and other constables "might not go in fear of their lives, when they were upon the execution of their office."

In excuse for Wyman it might be said that the Woburn men being already awake to the emergency, had, before the arrival of the Charlestown company, gone up to assist the people of Billerica, to the number of about twenty, including the best of the Woburn men and horses, and Wyman, perhaps, thought that the Woburn people had done enough, and, besides, the departure of these had made horses very scarce in Woburn.

In grants of meadow to several persons by the town in 1648 the records state that Francis and John Wyman were to have theirs in the swamp next their house. In 1649 mention is made of land near their houselots, and in 1672 the records allude to what estate Francis Wyman had at his old house. The latter owned also near his old house the plot called Dunham's swamp, granted him by the town. In 1665, Francis and John Wyman bought the Coytemore farm of 500 acres next the Billerica line, now in the town of Burlington. On this farm or an adjoining one, the brothers built two houses before 1667. According to the records of the General Court, the Coytemore farm was next their land "where their houses stand." One of these houses, built in 1666, is now standing, occupied by Joshua Reed. This house was arranged for a garrison house and the port holes are still there. This was Francis Wyman's farm house, where he would appear to be living in August, 1675, the time of Philip's War. A lengthy series of papers on file at the County Court would show this was an exposed point in the Indian troubles; that on one occasion Francis Wyman called on the citizens at the Centre for a garrison to help protect it; that in the year 1676 Francis Wyman rented it to different tenants, who through mismanagement failed to make it profitable either to themselves or to him; that lawsuits ensued; that long and now interesting testimony was taken; and among other incidents it was noted that the Indians, after peace was declared, were accustomed to encamp near it. The whole valley is a beautiful tract of country, at present quiet, peaceful, and secluded, where, as a recent visitor expressed it,—"It is afternoon all the time!" From 1666 to 1668 the difficulties respecting the Woburn and Billerica bounds at this point were adjusted, and at the same time those respecting the Wyman's farms here and those regarding the long standing troubles concerning the Coytemore farm were settled by the General Court. So much for the farm. Let us return now to the subject of John Wyman's house at the Centre, to verify the fact that his house descended from Jacob Wyman to Jacob's

son, Peter Wyman, to whom it was granted by the father. The original deed is before us, and reads, in substance, thus:

Jacob Wyman to his son Peter Wyman: a Deed of Gift. Feb. 3, 1741.

Jacob Wyman, for parental love, good will and affection towards his well beloved and dutiful son, Peter Wyman—gives and grants to his said son, Peter,—after his, Jacob's, decease—all the parcels of land and meadow....situate in the townships of Woburn and Wilmington, viz: "my homestead..in Woburn.. consisting of one dwelling house and barn, with other out buildings, with about 20 acres of land adjoining, partly meadow and partly upland....bounded as followeth, northerly by and with the Country Road leading by my aforesaid house; westerly by and with the land that formerly belonged to Benjamin Wyman, deceased; and elsewhere it is bounded by and with the land of Gershom Flagg, and the land I gave to my son Jacob Wyman, as the fence now standeth, till it comes to the aforementioned country road again." Another portion of the premises was the right in Mount Plainum field, given to Jacob in the will of his father John Wyman, deceased. There are other portions described, the only condition in the above deed being one reserving to the son Jacob Wyman, the use and improvement of the tanyard and barkhouse on the homestead, so long as the son shall follow the calling of a tanner.....also the use and improvement of the west end of the dwelling house, with the privilege of laying hay in the barn, for the son Isaiah Wyman, during the time he shall live unmarried. Dated Feb. 3, 1741. This deed was duly acknowledged and recorded.

In relation to the house of Francis Wyman "in the town," and near the house we have just described as that of his brother John Wyman, we find in a fragment of his will, 1698, that the east end of his dwelling house was to be kept in good repair for his widow to live in, and also the "new" barn for her use by his son Benjamin, to whom the will gives the homestead and Dunham's place. Francis also gives legacies to the elders of the Baptist church, showing that he was a Baptist in sentiment, though no church of that faith then existed in Woburn. From this fragment we pass to the estate of his son Benjamin, settled in 1737. We have his inventory, which has been saved to us, which mentions one dwelling house; barn, with lean-tos adjoining; malt house and mill and well: bark house; leather house; shop; homestead, and other lands. This Benjamin dying intestate, his estate was divided by commissioners. To Elizabeth, the deceased's widow, was awarded her thirds, including the east end of the dwelling house (note above, under Francis, the father) divided by the middle of the chimney, with liberty to improve the stairs that lead into the chambers and garrets, with half the porch; also 18 acres of the homestead. S. E. on John Russell; E., Jacob Wyman; N., Country Road; the bounds to extend through centre of chimney to a pear tree on S. side of the house, then W. straight to an apple tree. The Carter's land was west of this. The whole homestead lot of 39 acres was bounded N. by Country Road [Wyman street]; W. by Jonathan Wyman; S. and W., Eleazer Carter; S. E.,

on John Russell; E., on Jacob Wyman. The Dunham lot, a part of this estate, contained 36½ acres. The remaining two thirds of the estate to go to Benjamin, the eldest son, or the whole of the remaining part of the buildings and homestead. *Zabdial* or Zebadiah, the second son, to have 11 acres called Carter's orchard. Benjamin, the son, was also to be recompensed for loss in a barn "that fell down." This was the Capt. Benjamin Wyman who died in 1774, aged 68; and whose son Benjamin, died in 1774, also—about 40 days after his father.

This now brings us to the large estate of Benjamin Wyman, who died in 1774. The minutes of Capt. Wyman's inventory have been preserved. The whole estate amounted to £2240:00:7. There were his house, barn, and land on two sides of the street or road. The land on the south side was bounded N. on the Road; W., on Jonathan Wyman; S., on Jacob Wright and Eliz. Wyman; E., Peter Wyman; the lot called in amount 39 acres (same as a previous description.) The land on the north side of the road was bounded east by Jesse Wyman and James Baldwin. It contained about 37 acres; the road being present Wyman street. The Dunham lot is described, being about 20 acres. There was a house and land at Wilmington and land by Saw Mill Pond; by Blanchard's; at Wood Hill; a mill house, with the cider mill and press; chair house [chair, a kind of carriage, similar in principle to a chaise]; wood house; corn house; pew in Woburn Meeting House; wearing apparel etc. To illustrate the wearing apparel of a Woburn gentleman in 1774, we mention that he had:—3 beaver hats; wig; blue Roqueloo, [Roquelaure—a cloak for men. See illustration in *Century Dictionary.*] Blue coats; serge coat; light colored coat; black coat: blue breeches; black velvet jacket; yarn hose; bird's eye jacket; fustian and garlic jackets; breeches; leather breeches; worsted caps; calf skin shoes; boots; coarse worsted hose; shoes; silver buckles; worsted hose; fustian breeches; mittens and gloves; black hose; white gloves; light worsted hose; yarn and thread hose; leggins; cotton shirts; fine shirts; blue worsted hose; blue great coat; blue strait coat.

He also had a bible, other books, and a gun. Also a watch, 17 old books (widow's part); round table; looking glass; 2 silver spoons; 13 Delph [Delft] plates, blue and white; 6 small glasses; 6 silver tea spoons; a picture; pigeon net; beehives; sword; 4 white plates; silver tankard, supposed to cost £12; a map; a clock; 6 blue and white bowls, and a great variety of other articles. The picture and frame were "over the fire," —meaning over the fire place.

Benjamin, the son of this Benjamin Wyman, built another house on the same street in 1759, the house afterwards of his son Benjamin (died 1836—well-known as major and deacon) whose son Walter Wyman now owns it. The house is still standing.

After Benjamin Wyman's occupancy of the Francis Wyman place, it passed to Peter Wyman, whom we have already mentioned. Peter's son-in-law, Benjamin Edgell, next occupied it. The house was described in 1798 as "one dwelling house, 37 feet by 28....18 windows; house 2 stories; with half one acre of land adjoining said house; the chimney not finished." The farm of 10 acres was bounded N., on the Road; E., on Jeremiah

Clapp; S., on Josiah Converse; W., on Major Clapp. There was one barn on said land, 38 feet by 28. The house was taken down about 1849 or '50, and stood on the site of Marcellus Burnham's present house, 8 Wyman street. Wyman Street was described as the road leading from Billerica to Medford, in 1786, in a paper relating to the Wyman-Edgell estate of that date. It was in this house when owned by Capt. Benjamin Edgell that the present Baptist Society first worshipped, from April, 1792, two Sabbaths each month, to July, 1794, when their first meeting-house was erected. A curious coincidence this, with the interest expressed by Francis Wyman in that sect a century before! In an upper room, reached by a narrow stairway, this society worshipped. Elizabeth, widow of Benjamin Wyman, the maltster, had, in 1737, liberty to use the stairs that led into the chambers and garrets of the house her husband had occupied, which, if the same house, were probably the stairs existing in 1792 and 1794.

Much, very much, more might be said on the subject of these estates and these people! all of them important personages in their day, and many are the incidents that are left concerning the members of these households.—but we must desist. One incident of interest concerning an adjoining estate is here mentioned for the sake of the explanation. When the present Mr. Leonard Thompson was eighteen years old, he found on his father's place in the angle formed by the junction of present Wyman and Lowell Streets, the remains of an ancient fireplace, supposed to belong to a house which once stood on that spot, and among other relics of more or less value found with these remains was one of those now priceless coins called a Pine Tree shilling, which Mr. Thompson still has in his possession. He had been digging a trench in his father's garden when he came upon these relics. The question now arises, whose house was this? We are now prepared to answer that this was Joseph Carter's place,—the home of one of the early settlers of the town. Sewall shows that this Joseph Carter removed from Newbury to Woburn before 1659, and states that he lived with his son Joseph, in Wyman's Lane, Woburn, on the old Billerica Road, and that he died in Charlestown, in 1676. Joseph, Senior, in 1657, was granted a parcel of swamp of 2 or 3 acres, adjoining his houseplot. Later he was granted a small piece of land to set his barn on. In 1673 the town reckoned with him for entertaining the selectmen, which would show that he was an innholder, and, in 1675 he was granted ½ an acre, between his barn and the swamp, that his barn may be preserved from fire. The son Joseph, was a currier, had a family, and died in 1706. In 1659, Joseph, Senior, was released from all ordinary trainings on condition that he pay an annual sum to the military company he belonged to. He probably was licensed to keep an inn in Woburn as early as 1671, in place of John Sears, his predecessor. This license was renewed in 1672 and 1673. Sears began his career as an inn-keeper in Woburn in 1653. In 1657, John Wyman and John Sears were appointed a committee to lay out a highway between them and the town, which would show that they were then neighbors. In 1698, John Carter, Junior, mortgaged to Jacob

Wyman the 1-6 of the house and land that was called Joseph Carter's homestead, situate in Woburn, near said Jacob Wyman's house. He was a grandson of the first Joseph Carter. The homestead was bounded by the highway east and south, Richard Snow's houselot west, and Jacob Wyman's land north. Later, in 1700, the same John Carter sold to John Coggin, a small piece of land, it being a part of the homestead that did belong to his father Joseph Carter in Woburn, being about 4 acres, adjoining to land of Jacob Wyman at the north corner of the homestead, and bounding on the King's highway east, and Jacob Wyman's land north, "it being in that place but three poles wide, for about 20 poles together, till it comes to the brook, and then the line runs southwesterly about 12 poles wide until it comes square with Jacob Wyman's south corner, and then the main piece is 38 poles long and 13 poles wide, bounded by the upland of the homestead south, and by the swamp and upland in the swamp west and north, and partly upon Jacob Wyman's land east, and partly upon the other part of the premises first mentioned."

14. BENJAMIN BUTTERFIELD. Had a house plot in Woburn before 1654, and in that year he removed to Chelmsford. His was one of six lots alluded to in the records as adjoining lots in the following order:

1. Widow Britton, 1654, first outside lot next the town common. Same owner, 1674. Isaac Cole, husband of the widow, also owner with the wife, before 1674; sold to James Fowle, 1674. John Fowle, owner, 1694.
2. Benjamin Butterfield, 1654. Abraham Jaquith, owner, 1674. Exchanged by Abraham Jaquith, 2d., 1694, and conveyed to James Fowle.
3. John Tidd, 1654. James Fowle, owner, 1674.
4. John Wright, 1654, 1674 (south of Sears's lot). Joshua Sawyer, owner, 1692 (?) John Wright, 2d., then of Chelmsford, conveyed it to James Fowle, of Woburn, 1687, being "one small piece of 4 acres upland.... purchased by me of my brother-in-law Joshua Sawyer, of Woburn, and it is fenced in by itself, and contains one small dwelling house and a barn and an orchard and a garden": E., the King's highway; W., Wm. Dean; N., Gershom Flagg; S., Joseph Knight.
5. John Sears, 1654, 1674. Daniel Baldwin, owner, 1692; W., town street; E., James Converse's meadow; S., Joshua Sawyer's land, that was formerly John Wright's; N., by land formerly Allen Converse's homestead.
6. Allen Converse, 1654, 1674. Next a pond.

Trouble had occurred about the fencing, the understanding having been that the lots were "in general," by consent. This was settled by agreement before the selectmen in 1654 and again in 1674, when the former agreement was confirmed with a slight change.

In the exchange with James Fowle, in 1694, Abraham Jaquith, the 2d, describes the Butterfield lot as containing 5 and a half acres, being the house lot that was formerly Benjamin Butterfield's, afterwards Abraham Jaquith's (the 1st) then deceased. It contained "one old dwelling house," and a small piece of meadow at the east end. It was bounded E. by land of Lieut. John Richardson, that was Henry Tottingham's house lot; W. by

the Town street; S., by the house lot that was Isaac Cole's, now John Fowle's; N., by the house lot that was John Tidd's now in the possession of the said James Fowle (1694).

These lots are all in the easterly part of Woburn, but until further information is obtained we must drop the subject.

15. HENRY JEFTS. In 1659 "the Island," adjoining to New Bridge Field, is mentioned in the records, as having been sometime in the possession of Henry Jefts, and this is the last mention of him in them. He removed to Billerica, where he died 1700, aged about 94. There is nothing in the records to indicate his residence.

16. JAMES PARKER. There is no evidence from the town records to show the location of his house. He was an active citizen here, and became afterwards a prominent citizen of Groton, where he removed after 1652.

17. MR. THOMAS GRAVES. His farm like those of the three Richardsons, was situated in the easterly part of the original town of Woburn, and the present village of Montvale and a part of North Winchester would appear to be its site. Thomas Graves of Charlestown, physician, granted it to Nathaniel Richardson of Woburn, 1686. The property was described as "one farm, consisting of 360 acres in Woburn, now in the tenure of Thomas Williams, which farm contains one small house, barn, outhousing, etc., and is bounded easterly by Charlestown lots [now Stoneham], and John Holden's land, that was Stephen Fosdick's lot southeasterly, by the land of Isaac Richardson and John Bateman south and southwest, and westerly by Woburn town common; partly upon the land of Bartholomew Pearson upon the west, northerly by the land of James Thompso , northwest by the land of John Richardson and Thomas Pierce." Isaac Richardson, in 1679, received from Katharine Graves of Charlestown, widow, all lands granted before that date by the town of Woburn to her, in the way of privileges to her farm that lieth in Woburn. These lands were thus alienated from the name of Graves, and came into the possession of that name of multitudinous individuals —Richardson. It will also be observed that this was a very large tract, extending, we should say, from the northerly part of present Montvale village in Woburn, southerly almost to the point where the Aberjona River crosses Washington Street, in Winchester. The small house and other buildings of this large farm were apparently located on Montvale Avenue in Montvale, on the estate known in the present century as the Andrew Evans estate. Isaac Richardson, before mentioned, was a brother of Nathaniel Richardson, and previously to the Graves convevance. the two brothers entered into an agreement about their lands which they had acquired by purchase or inheritance. In this agreement "the saw-mill pond next the town common" is mentioned, probably referring to the pond now called Burbank's Pond. The highway going to Mr. Graves' farm, is mentioned; also the River; but none of these lands mentioned were a part of the Graves farm, and in the absence of definite records it is difficult to tell what they are. In 1686 the town of Woburn agreed, that the highway should be made good "over the River near Nathaniel Richardson's house," a reference, evidently to the house he had bought in the same

year of the Graves family, and a reference, too, to the spot where the house stood. From Nathaniel Richardson, who died intestate, in 1714, the property would appear to have descended to his sons James and Joshua, and the lot on which the small house stood near the crossing of the river by the highway, to have been more particularly Joshua's, who, through his daughter Mary, who married Andrew Evans, Senior, transferred the estate to that name.

Andrew Evans, Senior, who died in 1778, was followed by his son Andrew Evans, who died in 1799. In 1798 (or 1800) this Andrew Evans had on the estate "one dwelling house [still standing] 38 feet by 28; 20 windows; house 2 stories in front one in rear;" with the land under the house, a barn, old and poor, with the lean-to joining it, a shed, and 70 acres of land, W., on Reading Road; S., on Zachariah Richardson, Jonathan Eaton, and James Steele, E., on said Eaton and Ebenezer Wade; N., on said Wade and Reuben Richardson, with a grist mill of one pair of stones accompanying the estate.

South of this Zachariah Richardson had a farm of 120 acres, in 1798, suspiciously like the 120 acres of John Harvard of 1638, afterwards bought of Mrs. Harvard by Thomas Graves, and which is mentioned in the following list of his possessions, but the description of which was lost from the records. This farm was described in 1798 thus: "Zachariah Richardson, one farm, containing 120 acres, bounded south partly on Jeduthun Richardson; partly on the road, partly on Nathan Richardson; west on said Jeduthun Richardson; northwardly partly on said Jeduthun Richardson and partly on the heirs of Jonathan Richardson; east on Ebenezer Lawrence and Jeduthun Richardson." The homestead of Jeduthun Richardson was the present residence of Luther Richardson in North Winchester.

The Evans house at Montvale was occupied by Hosea Evans, son of Andrew, in 1831, and the grist mill near it was on the privilege now occupied by the Saw Factory. The house is readily recognized as the old one standing back to the street, being No. 301 Montvale Ave.

Thomas Graves was styled Mr. or Master, perhaps on account of his social standing, or on account of his being a sea captain or to distinguish him, maybe from another Thomas Graves of Charlestown, known as the engineer. He was also a rear-admiral in the navy under Cromwell. On his wife's gravestone (1681) he is called "Capt. Thomas." He died in 1653. He was a man of property, and his inventory mentions with other estate, 352 acres at Woburn.

The possession of Thomas Graves within Charlestown limits, in 1638, mentions 40 acres of land, situate in Waterfield, bought of the assigns of John Stratton, being lot No. 64, and 100 poles in length, etc,. bounding N. W. on Walter Palmer, S. E. on John Harvard, S. W. on Abraham Palmer, and N. E. on Walter Palmer (1638.)

80 acres, situate in Waterfield, bought of Abraham Palmer, being lot No. 63, bounding N. W. on George Bunker, S. E. on John Harvard, S. W. on James Matthews, or Thomas Lynde, N. E. on John Stratton (1638.)

120 acres, situate in Waterfield, bought of Mrs. Harvard and entered before in her name, but the folio containing the

possessions of John Harvard is missing, so the description is lost.

80 acres lying in Waterfield, which was given in way of exchange for a lot at Shawsheen; bounded W. by the river that runs between his 120 acres and this 80, E., Stephen Fosdick, and N., the common belonging to Charlestown. Waterfield is another name for Woburn.

18. NICHOLAS DAVIS. This individual came to New England in the *Planter*, Nicholas Trarice, master (19) in 1634. His age was then 40; his wife Sarah's, 48; and his "cousin's" (nephew) William Locke's, who came with them, 6. Locke settled in Woburn, and so did James Hayward, aged 22, another passenger, who married his fellow passenger, Judith Phippen, then 16 years; she afterwards married William Simonds of Woburn, the owner of the old Simonds mansion which is still standing at Cummingsville, and which was used as a garrison house during Philip's War, 1675-76. William Simonds died 1672, leaving this house, a barn the land about his house, and other lands. One of his debts was that to Sergt. John Wyman, "for 7 windows, at 4s. a piece," for the house, one of these diamond paned windows being yet preserved. The widow Judith Simonds occupied for her thirds, the "west end of the dwelling house and the east end of the barn," besides 20 acres of land at the house, etc. Benjamin Simonds succeeded his father in the ownership of the house, which existed under his name in 1675-76, and he wasfollowed by a succession of Benjamin's until Nathan Simonds, who died in 1827, was the owner. In 1687 Judith Simonds granted to her son Benjamin, several parcels of land: one parcel adjacent to his "now dwelling house," 3 ac., John Locke east, said Benjamin west, the King's highway north, Samuel Walker south; another parcel "lying in the plain on the backside of said Benjamin's now dwelling house, on the other side of the country road," 7 ac., south by the King's highway, by said Benjamin's lands elsewhere. These descriptions relate to the present house. In the Woburn Public Library are many Simonds papers, including unrecorded deeds. From Nathan the house descended to his children the Barnards, thence to Blanchard, 1840, thence to Duren, who, in 1843, sold to William Barnard, at whose death in 1844 it was bought by Jesse Cutler, by whose name it has been recently known. In this house the early Episcopalians worshipped in the last century and formed a congregation. The house was included in the limits of Woburn Second Parish in 1798.

In the Suffolk Deeds, 1.93, is the following document, which is of great importance for the information it imparts concerning the residence of Davis: "The bill of sale from Nicholas Davis, of Charlestown, to William Reade, of Muddy River [now Brookline], of his house and lands in Woburn, containing 50 acres of upland, 4 acres of meadow, before the door; 4 acres of meadow in Rock Meadow; and 2 acres in Brook Meadow; with all barns, outhouses, fences, and all to the same belonging; which is by me an absolute deed of sale. Nicholas Davis. Dated 7.5, 1648". Davis did not stay in Woburn, apparently, after 1646, and removed afterwards to York, Maine, where he died about 1670. His place in Woburn was sold by William Reed to Samuel Walker, Senior, who, in turn, sold it to his son Samuel Walker of Wo-

burn, in 1674. It was then described as all his farm "in westerly part of said town," purchased of William Reed, containing the house where the son then dwelt, with the barn and about thirty acres of land adjoining, wherein is contained three and one half acres of meadow lying near to the dwelling-house, etc. The other pieces named in the deed are the same as those named in the conveyance of 1648, from Davis to Reed. This farm is the same as the well known Walker farm in present Burlington, on "Walker's Lane." John Walker owned it after Samuel Walker. Second, being a grandson of the first Samuel Walker, called Senior, and it remained in the Walker family till 1847, when Josiah Walke sold it to a person not of the family name. The estate is now in Burlington and the house upon it is now occupied by J. E. Marion.

As a portion of the house occupied by William Locke the immigrant, is yet standing, it is well at this point to give a brief description of its history. A picture of it as it appeared in 1853 is to be found in the Book of the Lockes. It was then so joined in its two parts as to form the shape of the block letter L, and one of these parts is yet remaining in the back yard of the house of Ephraim Colburn, 197 Lexington Street, near Cambridge Street. This property William Locke purchased of Goodman Pearson of Boston, about 1650, having paid for it in clapboard bolts. This transaction was confirmed by a deposition on record of John Johnson, aged about 35, and William Johnson, about 42, in 1671, who said that Locke bought of Pearson all the land the latter had in Woburn, or two lots that were formerly John Sibley's and Benjamin Hubbard's, which sale was about 20 years before, Locke having paid him for it "in clapboard bolts to the said Pearson's content", Oct. 13, 1671. John Sibley's lot of 28 acres, on the Waterfield map of 1638, is next east of Edward Johnson's large lot, in the westerly part of Woburn, and is the property occupied by the homestead estate of William Locke. Benjamin Hubbard's lot, as represented on the same map is in the same neighborhood, to the southwest. The homestead estate of William Locke descended from William to his son Ebenezer, thence to his son Samuel, who before his removal to Lancaster in 1742, sold the estate, in 1741, to Samuel Wyman, 3d., it being bounded S. W. on the road from Cambridge to Billerica, now Cambridge Street, there being in all 65 acres in the homestead portion of it. Dea. Samuel Wyman (the one styled the 3d.) gave this property to his son Joseph Wyman, who sold it to Col. Loammi Baldwin, who conveyed it to Thomas Fox, and his son Captain William Fox, by whose name the place was known, when the Locke Book was published in 1853. The following entries in the Woburn list of 1798, probably have reference to it or to adjoining estates, "William Fox: 1 house, 2 stories high, 40 by 20, area 800 feet; 15 windows, 98 feet glass; one farm bought of Col. Baldwin, containing 30 acres of land, and an old barn, 40 by 30, area 1200 feet. Col. Baldwin, owner: William Fox, occupant: 1 piece of land, 16 acres, bounded west on Benjamin Smith; 35 acres of land, bounded on Col. Baldwin, belonging to the heirs of Mary Baldwin, deceased, known by the name of the James Fowle land."

19. NICHOLAS TRARICE was a master mariner. He settled in Woburn, but left the town, between 1645 and 1646, for Charlestown, where he came from. He was dead by 1665, when his widow married another. In 1651, Rebecca Trarice, by virtue of a letter of attorney from her husband, Nicholas Trarice, sold for £30. their homestead here, to George Reed, described as "one farm in Woburn. together with one dwelling house, one barn, ten acres of meadow and fifty acres of upland or thereabouts." The farm here mentioned is the place lately owned by Nathan Blanchard, Esq., in what is now Burlington, and the house stood on the spot occupied by Esquire Blanchard's carriage house. Hist Reed family. page 65.

20. JOHN CARTER. The origin of the real estate of this individual is traced to his father Thomas Carter, of Charlestown, who by a deed of gift to his son, John Carter, gives to him one half of his lands "lying at Woburn, the 16th of the 2d month, 1648" (April 16, 1648). The acknowledgment recorded in the Charlestown Book of Possessions states, "that I, Thomas Carter, senior, of Charlestown, do hereby acknowledge that I have assigned and freely and fully given and made over half of my lot which I had lying Woburn, unto my son John Carter, both half my lot which was given me in the dividing. as also half of that which I bought in the same town, lying by the other; the whole lot, and what was bought, being by estimation six score and fifteen acres, more or less, which, as above, I have divided and given to my son William Green, and this to my son John Carter." A half of the above 75 acres, being 37 and a half acres, is thus acquired by John Carter, better known in Woburn annals as Capt. John Carter. A further record of this transfer entered in the Charlestown Book of Possessions is dated "20th of the 12th month, 1649" (Feb. 20, 1649.) In this Thomas Carter calls himself "blacksmith," inhabiiant in Charlestown, and describes the land as a "certain parcel of land arable or meadow, amounting to the number of three score and seven acres and a half which lies and is situate within the precincts of the town of Woburn: all which land is bounded, southeast by Mr. Increase Nowell's land; and northeast by Edward Converse's land; northwest by William Green's land, which was the other half of my given and purchased land; and on the southwest it is bounded by the common."

John Carter would appear to be succeeded in ownership by his son John, who was succeeded by his son Samuel, otherwise known as Capt. Samuel Carter (died 1787, aged 92) who was succeeded by his son Samuel Carter, known as Tory Carter, who died 1805, aged 84. The estate has been in recent years known as the Andrews estate, on Winchester Hills, in the southwesterly portion of Winchester. See also in this connection William Green (29.)

There is no equivalent of this estate in the schedule of 1798.

21. JAMES CONVERSE, son of Edward (No. 2 of this list) and the last survivor of the 32 signers of the town orders of 1640; d. 1715, aged 95. His house was standing till after 1800, and within the memory of many now living. He was a neighbor of Edward, his father, and lived at present Winchester Centre. His homestead descended (1) to his grandson Rob-

ert Converse; (2) to Ebenezer Converse, son of Robert; (3) to Benjamin Converse, son of Ebenezer, who died in 1824, aged 93. The estate adjoined the present High School lot, on Church Street, Winchester. In 1798, the house was described thus: "Benjamin Convers; one dwelling house, 36 feet by 17.....5 windows.... the house two stories..... *The house not tenantable.*" The farm contained 24 acres and with the estate was an "*old barn*, 40 by 28." The italicised phrases would show that the place was old at the end of the last century. Mr. A. C. Vinton, an eminent authority, has given an elaborate description of this estate in a letter which we present here.

109 MAIN ST. WINCHESTER.
MAY 20, 1892.

WILLIAM R. CUTTER, ESQ. *Dear Sir:*—Your favor of the 18th inst. is before me in which you inquire as to any information I may have relating to the dwelling place of Lieut. James Convers, son of Dea. Edward Convers, one of the founders of Woburn, with the suggestion that he probably occupied the house of the latter.

As you possibly know, I have had occasion in the practice of my profession to examine many Winchester titles and found the Converse family exceedingly difficult to deal with, on account of the many persons of the same Christian name who were difficult to distinguish from each other; so that I was obliged to construct a skeleton genealogy of the Converse family, which is printed at the end of Johnson's Woburn Marriages, 1640—1872, and I will take the liberty to distinguish the individuals referred to in this letter by their number in that sketch.

1. *Lieut. James Convers (3) never owned any interest in the house in which Dea. Edward lived.* The latter owned two houses, one very near the present northerly corner of Church and Main Sts. in Winchester in which Dea. Josiah Convers (2) lived and which was devised to him in tail by his father; (Mr. Whitney's conjecture as to the position of this house, 3 Winchester Records, 37, is a mistake); the other, in which Edward himself lived, in the location well known to you; this house Dea. Edward devised by his will (printed in Winchester Record 1,235) to his son Serg't Samuel Convers (5), also in tail with remainder to the children of the testator's daughter Mary Thompson (4). Serg't Samuel was killed in 1669, and the house descended to the heir in tail, Samuel Convers (17). Perhaps the entail was never legally barred except by adverse possession; however this may be Samuel Convers (17) conveyed the homestead to James Richardson, Feb. 27, 1710 by a deed containing a covenant for quiet enjoyment—but not sufficient to bar the entail. Richardson conveyed to Thomas Hencher, Dec. 29, 1710, with full covenants of warranty. Thomas Hencher owned the property till his death, and his son Thomas conveyed to David Wyman, March 4, 1734. This carries the title about 19 years after the death of Lieut. James Convers, who thus appears to have had no interest in it.

2. The homestead of Lieut. James is thus described in the Woburn Book of Possessions as it was in 1692. About 20 acres upland and meadow bounded East by the river and land of Josiah Convers i. e. Capt Josiah (6) S. W. by William Sims & N. W. by Wedge Pond. This boundary is not quite a complete description, but considering that the land on the N. E. side of Main Street has been shown above to have been owned at this time (1692) by Samuel Convers (17), and that Capt. Josiah Convers was undoubtedly the owner at this time (by inheritance from his father Dea. Josiah, who died intestate) of Dea. Edward Convers' other house on the west side of Main street, as stated above, the description shows clearly that the homestead of Lieut. James was not on the east side of Main Street, but must have been somewhere between the west side of Main Street, Wedge Pond, and the Symmes Farm; the northeast line of which farm ran from the most northerly

angle of the present High School lot southeasterly to Main Street, and crossing it somewhat south of the subsequent site of the Black Horse Tavern.

3. Very nearly the same description given above from the Book of Possessions, is given by Lieut. James in his will dated Aug. 28, 1712, proved May 17, 1715, which contains this clause:—"To my grandson Robert Converse (31) son of Major James Convers (8), I give my homestead in Woburn consisting of my dwelling house and barn and all my outhousing, orcharding, pasterland, upland and meadowland pertaining to my homestead, and that is bounded on the East partly with the homestead of my cousin [according to the usage of those days 'my nephew'] Josiah Convers [i. e. Capt. Josiah Convers (6)] and partly with the road leading from Woburn to Charlestown until it comes to Charlestown bounds, [i. e. the limits of the Symmes Farm] and is bounded on the north by Wedge Pond and on the W. & S. by Mr. Sim's farm, not including what I formerly possest my son Edward Convers, (13), with all comprehended within those bounds, reserving an open high way [now Church St.] to lie two pole wide from my cousin [nephew] Josiah Convers's land [including the house above mentioned near corner of Church and Main Sts.] next his orchard, and so through my land next to Mr. Sims' land to the great field [which I suppose means the great plain east of Cambridge St.] which shall lie for an open highway forever."

This language shows clearly that Church St. runs through the homestead of Lieut. James Convers (3.)

4. Nearly two years after making the above mentioned will, Lieut. James (by deed dated June 9, 1714, and recorded with Mdlx. (So. Dist.) Deeds, Book 17, page 46) conveyed to his said grandson Robert Convers (13) the following:—My homestead containing one dwelling house barn, and orchard, and meadow, and upland containing by estimation 10 acres more or less bounded South by Wm. Symmes, N. by Capt. Convers [i. e., Capt. Josiah (6) above mentioned] W. by Wedge Pond and E. by the highway that leadeth from Woburn to Charlestown.

This narrows still further the position of his house [the homestead here said to contain 10 acres, instead of 20] and I believe the true site of the house to have been the estate now or recently owned by Mrs. Mary S. Dodge on the northwest side of Church St. adjoining the High School lot. A very old house stood there about 25 years ago, which I presume was the identical house: the barn stood nearly opposite, on the southeast side of Church St.

The subsequent title tends somewhat to confirm this. Robert Converse died intestate July 20, 1736, leaving a widow Mary (Sawyer) Convers surviving him, (she died probably in 1766) and several children. Said widow's dower was set off to her in part, in a part of this house and the residue, not set off or dower, was set off to the eldest son of the deceased, Ebenezer Convers (67) in 1739. Said Ebenezer died Sept. 6, 1765, intestate, leaving several children, among others Benjamin (108), who in some way seems to have acquired title to that part of said house which was not set off as dower, and by a further petition made in 1767 acquired the dower land of his grandmother, said Mary (Sawyer) Convers and *his* administrator, in 1825, conveyed the property by a more modern description to Joseph Wyman (Mx. Deeds, 259, 385.)

The inventory of Lieut. James Convers which was filed with great promptness on the very day of the probate of his will, and only seven days after his decease, shows that the house contained the following rooms: "east chamber, west chamber, great room, west room below, east low room, cellar."

This differs materially from the description of the house (residence) of Dea. Edward Convers, which is shown by his inventory printed in Winchester Record, vol. 2, pp. 58-61, to have contained: "hall, hall chamber, kitchen (in main house), lean-to, lean-to chamber, chamber over kitchen, garret over that."

The inventory of Serg't. Samuel Convers (5) filed in 1671, to whom it will be

remembered Dea. Edward devised his homestead in tail, shows that it contained the same rooms as mentioned in the inventory of Dea. Edward, except that it omits the "lean-to chamber" and adds a cellar. The descriptions thus obtained of the respective houses of Dea. Edward and of his son Lieut. James, seem so different as nearly to exclude the idea of their identity.

The famous interview in 1702 mentioned by Sewall as occurring under the shady tree, seems at most to indicate a probability that Lieut. James lived in the vicinity; which of course is admitted by my theory. (*a*)

Sincerely begging your pardon for inflicting so much upon you, I am,

Very truly yours,

ALFRED C. VINTON.

(*a*) Judge Samuel Sewall met Lieut. James Converse, in 1702, in this locality (Winchester Centre) and discoursed with him on various topics under a shady tree (Diary). The judge was then journeying from Newbury to Boston, via Andover and Woburn, and notes the above incident in his famous diary.—C.

The homestead of Major James Convers (son of Lieut. James) was described in 1699 as on that lot in Waterfield known as Shepardson's lot, which he had acquired with other adjoining lands, all of which, including the above lot, were located near Winter Pond, in Winchester. The statement of former writers that his residence stood a little east of that pond or in the vicinity of the Wildwood Cemetery, would appear thus to be substantiated.

The locality of the residence of Major William Johnson, a contemporary of Major Converse, was also in the same neighborhood, or, on Cambridge Street, in Winchester, being the estate latterly known as the Luke Reed place, and formerly as a Reed and Belknap place, at present occupied by Edward Russell.

22. DANIEL BACON. Brother of Michael Bacon (10). Exchanged with Michael Bacon, Jr., certain lands: 60 acres upland in Woburn, on both sides of the highway, Michael Bacon, Senior's, lands being northwest, etc., with all the houses, edifices, buildings, etc., belonging. 1660. Daniel Bacon was then of New Cambridge, and these lands were the same Michael Bacon, Sen., granted to Michael Bacon, Jr., 1670. The second deed should precede the first deed. The second probably was prepared, but remained long unsigned, as would appear from the dates. In another exchange of lands in Bridgewater, Michael Bacon, of Billerica, conveys to Daniel Bacon, of New Cambridge, "one complete purchase of house and land in Woburn, at a place called the West End.....more particularly a dwelling house, barn, etc., with 60 acres of land, in which is included the homestead that was formerly Richard Holden's," bounded N. E. by William Simonds and William Clarke, S. by Samuel Walker and George Reed, and by "lands of Michael Bacon, senior, on the northwest, a highway going through it." The highway is present Cambridge street, and the estate is located in present Burlington limits. The date of this last transfer is 1681, and it was intended to correct a former deed which did not give a proper description.

In 1680, Daniel Bacon, of Cambridge, alienates to Samuel Walker, of Woburn, the above complete purchase of 60 acres; the house and land that was hereby sold was Michael Bacon's, Junior. In 1681, Richard Holden of Cambridge, sells to John Johnson, of Woburn, among other parcels, "the homestead or home plot" where he formerly lived in Woburn, at a

place called the West End, etc., adjoining Samuel Walker N. and E.; and George Reed S. and E.; the common lands elsewhere. In 1685, when Daniel Bacon was 70 years old, he testified that he saw the signing of this deed.

New Cambridge, mentioned in the above deeds, is now Newton. Daniel Bacon's wife was of Bridgewater. He is supposed to have removed to Newton, about 1669 (?1660), and died in 1691, and the above is all the connection of his name with houselots in Woburn, that we can find.

23. EDWARD WINN. Tradition has always assigned the residence of Edward Winn, and the records would appear to sustain it, to the site of the wellknown house of William Winn, Esq., in Burlington, now occupied by his son William H. Winn. Here dwelt his decendants for several generations, many of them men occupying prominent positions in the community, and other descendants of the family name occupied houses in the immediate vicinity. It was, in fact, then, and now, an essentially Winn neighborhood. From Edward the descent would appear to have been to his son Joseph; thence to his son Timothy; thence to his son Timothy, known as Capt. and Dea. Timothy Winn (1712—1800); to Timothy (son of the latter); Col. William (grandson); William, Esq. (great-grandson) father of William H. Winn.

In the Woburn Public Library is a fragment of a deed, acknowledged 1709, in which Joseph Winn, Senior, for the love he bore his son Timothy Winn, grants to that son his homestead, consisting of one dwelling house, barn, cornhouse, and other outhousing, with the land in the field before the dwelling house, the Billerica road parting this part of his homestead, from the other part whereon the house standeth, in other words, going between the two parts. Other lands were also transferred, allowing, however, that his "now married wife" have the use of the house and barn on the homestead during her life, but after her death the son Timothy was to have full possession. The son Timothy Winn died intestate in 1752, and the court assigned to the two sons Timothy and Joseph two thirds of the real estate, and one third (her thirds) to the widow Jane for dower. This division is illustrated by a plan which the Library possesses, entitled, "A plat of the land of Timo. Winn, deceas'd's, 1753," which plan is an illustration of the present estate of William Winn, in Burlington, with the house upon it, and the road going between the two parts. The house is on the same site as the present house. In the Library is also an unsigned and undated will of the Timothy Winn, son of the above Timothy, who died in 1800, made in the seventeen hundreds, who bequeaths to his "only son" Timothy, all the buildings and lands where the testator dwells, viz., about 80 acres of land lying on the westerly side of the country road, and on which "my barns now stand," together with the building on the same; also my house and other buildings on the easterly side of said road, together with 40 acres of land, adjoining to said buildings, etc. The wife was to have the use of the easterly half of his dwelling, and other privileges.

24. HENRY BALDWIN. One of the first settlers of the new town and of that part of it which is now known as North

Woburn. "Here, in 1661, he built the palatial house which is still one of the most imposing in the town, and which, though with some changes and occasional improvements, has been owned and occupied by his descendants down through six generations." (Rev. Leander Thompson.) The house is, though somewhat changed, the oldest dwelling in Woburn. The estate connected with it and its owner. Colonel Loammi Baldwin, contained, in 1801, the large number of 212 acres, valued at $9000, by the town assessors, at that time. A picture of the house,—one of many that might be mentioned,—is given in the "Winchester Record", vol. i. p. 171. Its late owner was George R. Baldwin, son of Col. Loammi, who is succeeded by his daughter, Mrs. Griffith. This estate was where the Baldwin apple was cultivated, but not the precise place where it originated. Col. Loammi Baldwin was the person from whom it was named, owing to his influence and endeavors to introduce it to the public nearly a century ago. As Rev. Leander Thompson, already quoted, truthfully says of the house, it is "by far the most imposing, best preserved, and modern-looking house" among the oldest houses in Woburn. Singular as it may appear, there is an omission of this estate in the list of estates in the First Parish in 1798 (i. e. for 1800, which the law intended). The Colonel is credited in the list with other estates, but not with this. In 1820,—Rev. Leander Thompson says,—the house was in looks much the same as it is now. The north chimney, put up by George R. Baldwin, was reputed to be the first "single flue" chimney made in the country. The same person designed the chimney caps and built a small addition to the rear of the house. On the south between the house and the canal, was formerly a beautiful garden, with walks and trees, superior to anything of the kind in this section. All traces of its appointments having long since disappeared, "neither fountain, nor arbor, nor walk, nor boat, is there now to hint at the story of the past." The house was occupied by Col. Baldwin till his death in 1807. Col. Loammi Baldwin was an eminent citizen, and among other high honors, was a a colonel in the Revolutionary Army under Washington, being in active service for some time. In 1832, George R. Baldwin occupied the mansion house. Attached to the estate was, in 1820, a farm house, which, about doubled in size, still exists as an attachment to the larger place.

25. FRANCIS KENDALL. (Residence on present Lexington Street, near Garden Street. House standing after 1864.)

In 1800 this house was owned by Benjamin Fowle, described in 1798, under his name as, "One old dwelling house, 40 by 18 feet, area 720 feet; 8 windows, 37 square feet of glass; 2 stories; the land on which it stands....one farm containing 70 acres of good land, bounded south Jacob Pierce, east on John Flagg, north on Reuben Johnson; with a barn, 40 by 30." With the place was "one lot in Rag Rock, 6 acres of land....one wood lot, 14, called Rag Rock lot, small wood."

The house stood west of the present Samuel Fox place, and its cellar is yet seen in the side of a small hill. The second story of the house projected over the lower, showing that it was built like a garrison house of the early period.

Adjoining to this estate, in 1800, was John Flagg's estate, described in 1798, as having upon it, "one dwelling house, very old, and out of repair, 45 feet long, 18 wide; 17 windows; the house 2 stories;" the farm, which said Flagg bought of Thomas Bruce, contained 40 acres. One piece, adjoining the same, called Rag Rock, contained 18 acres of broken land, with a young growth of woods. This was the place where Mary Kendall, who married Israel Reed lived, it being known in later years as the William Flagg place. She was a daughter of Francis Kendall, who by his will in 1706, left to his eldest son John Kendall, as he describes it, "my now dwelling house, barn and barn yard," etc.; to son Thomas, the land that his house "standeth on"; to son Samuel, the house, "which he now dwelleth in;" to son Jacob, the 30 acres of land his house "standeth on," etc. etc. To daughter Mary Reed, wife of Israel Reed, he gave that tract of land that "their house stands on, the which I possessed her of upon marriage, the which is by estimation nine acres," etc. Francis Kendall died 1708, aged 88.

In 1678, Francis Kendall was granted land by the town, "bounded by the path that goeth from Israel Reed's to Samuel Walker's gate, and bounded elsewhere by the land of Francis Kendall and Samuel Walker." This is the same highway as "Brush's Lane," mentioned in 1694 (see a previous installment.) In 1682, Israel Reed acquired possession of a piece of land at Woburn Centre, near the Central House; the spot, perhaps, where he kept an ordinary or inn, 1691, or previously (see Johnson's Abstracts of Deeds, p. 28, etc.)

26. John Tidd. Under Benj. Butterfield (14) mention is made of a houseplot, under dates of 1654 and 1674, belonging to John Tidd, whose lot thus mentioned adjoined Benjamin Butterfield's on one side and John Wright's on the other. This lot of Tidd's belonged to James Fowle in 1674.

27. Henry Tottingham. In the records of land belonging to Henry Tottingham, lying in the bounds of the town of Woburn, entered in the Woburn town book in the year 1678, is the following: "Old House, 8 acres of land," viz., one dwelling house and barn situated at a place on the east side of the meeting house [meaning on the easterly side of the town]; at a place called Hilly Way [an old name for a part of Montvale Avenue]; with 8 acres of land adjoining to it, bounded by the land of John Wright, Abraham Jaquith and James Fowle west, and the land of Bartholomew Pearson north and east and running over the highway south. In 1679, Elijah Tottingham, son of Henry, sells to John Richardson, the above homestead estate, described as "lying on the northeast or east side of the meeting-house," being the old house and barn in which Henry Tottingham, then deceased, had formerly lived and possessed, containing 8 acres, E. and N., B. Pearson; W. James Fowle and A. Jaquith; S., the highway. The meeting house located at Woburn Centre is the point whence the direction of the estate is taken, and the position of the latter is to be looked for somewhere near the present Woburn and Reading lines. Anna Frothingham, a widow, of Charlestown, who, in 1670, granted to James Thompson, of Woburn, 60 acres of upland lying in Woburn, bounded S. by the land or farm of the

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widow Katherine Graves, E. by Charlestown Common [Stoneham], N. and N. E. by land of Joseph Richardson, states that this grant to Thompson was bounded W., by the "brook that runneth from Henry Tottingham's house, down to the mill, called Converse's Mill!" James Thompson was son of Simon, of Woburn, and Anna Frothingham was widow of William Frothingham, of Charlestown, to whom was granted this lot, then one of the Waterfield lots. In the Charlestown Book of Possessions, in 1638, this 60 acres was described as "60 acres of arable and meadow land," bounded S. W. "by the river which runs down by Thomas Graves's farm"; also by John March, and N. W. by March's lot, N. E. by the Common [Charlestown Common], S. E. "butting towards Mr. Graves's lot." John March's lot, also a Waterfield lot under the Charlestown grant, was bought by Samuel Richardson, and sold by the latter's widow to her son Joseph Richardson, in 1678, being 55 acres on the "east side of the town," bounded S. by the Aberjona River; E., by Widow Frothingham; and N. W. on the common lands of Woburn. This same Joseph Richardson, in the same year, had his property entered on the records of Woburn, and this 55 acres is again described as a part of March's lot in Waterfield, viz., containing (in 1678) one dwelling house, barn, stables and outhousing and sawmill, and 55 acres of land adjoining, part of which "was formerly John March's lot of Charlestown," and part given by the town of Woburn, on which "is built a sawmill," being half Joseph's own, bounded by land of James Thompson E. and S.; Samuel Converse, W.; also Buck Meadow River (the Aberjona) W.; the common lands, N., and the highway to Reading. There were other lands near located in Reading. The locality of this March lot was near the present junction of Woburn, Stoneham and Reading town lines.

Stephen Richardson (R. Mem. 2384) a descendant of Joseph Richardson, owned in 1798 1-2 a house, and one grist mill, and one saw mill with one saw, and a farm of 36 acres, which would appear to be a part of the original Joseph Richardson estate, including the saw mill of 1678. His brother Jesse, then called Jesse Richardson, the 4th, had in 1798, also 1-2 a house, the same as Stephen's, and a farm of 20 acres, bounded N. on Stephen Richardson, and otherwise on Jesse Richardson and Elijah Leathe. This Stephen and Jesse were sons of another Stephen, who was son of Stephen, son of Stephen, son of another Stephen, who was son of Joseph Richardson, owner of the March lot. The Richardson Family Memorial says of most of these that they all lived at Button End, close on the confines of Stoneham or very near the Stoneham line. The estate and mill would appear to be on the Jas. R. Wood place at that point. A sawmill at that place is shown on the maps of Woburn in 1794 and 1831, and the stream there, or the main stream would appear to be the stream leading from Henry Tottingham's house to the lower points on the River, such as Converse's Mill, etc. But Henry Tottingham would appear to have two houses in this vicinity, as the following statement will show, a fact that serves to complicate matters and at the present state of information leaves us in doubt as to the location of either.

On another page of the records the description of the lands of Henry Tottingham, lying in the bounds of Woburn and Reading, in 1678, is continued, beginning with a second dwelling house, and 40 acres of land adjoining it. With the house were a barn, stable and other out buildings. The land was bounded S. by land of John Richardson, W. by land of Abraham Jaquith, and E. by the River; it "lying on the highway to Reading."

In April, 1679, the will of Henry Tottingham, deceased, was presented to the county court by Elijah Tottingham his executor.

Elisha Tottingham, a descendant, who owned a large landed estate in Woburn, in 1798, had in the vicinity where Henry Tottingham lived, the following estate, described thus: "Elisha Tottingham, owner; James Locke, occupant: one house, very old, 38 feet by 18, and untenautable: one old barn, almost fallen down; 25 acres of land called the Poole place, bounded W. partly on the River, and partly on a road leading to Shred Pine; S. on Samuel Richardson: E. on Jesse Richardson and the heirs of James Fowle; north on Tyng's land."

The description of the estate of Edward Richardson, near the Reading line, in 1798, states that his farm of 50 acres, bounded E. on the Road; N., unknown: S., on Stephen Richardson; was bounded west on Elisha Tottingham, referring evidently to the above old place.

This ends all that we can say on the matter at present.

28. RICHARD LOWDEN. Signed the town orders, but never settled in Woburn. He died in Charlestown, where he lived, in 1700, in his 88th year.

29. WILLIAM GREEN. William Green's house was very near to the house of Capt. John Carter, who was his brother-in-law. In 1686, John Carter, Jr., son of Capt. John Carter, mortgages the premises, described as containing one dwelling house, outhouses, and 50 acres of land, situate at the south end of Woburn, with other lots of meadow and upland particularly described; including 28 acres above the pasture by the end of a hill called Indian Hill. Most of these lots are bounded on one side by the lands of Capt. Carter and are located in the vicinity of his homestead. The deed shows that the property mortgaged by John Carter, Jr., belonged originally to William Green, Sen., deceased, and next to John Bateman, before Carter had obtained possession.

In 1659 the answer of the General Court was given to the petition of three Carters, Thomas, Joseph and Samuel, in relation to the orphans of William Green, action having been taken at earlier date, 1653, on the petition of Mary Carter and that of the brothers, Thomas, Samuel and Joseph, her sons, relative to her grandchildren's inheritance. William Green's wife was Hannah Carter, per the Charlestown Book of Possessions. His son John Green, married Sarah, daughter of John Bateman, which may account in part for the connection of the name of Bateman with the place.

Thomas, Joseph, Samuel, and John Carter the captain of Woburn were all sons of Thomas Carter, of Charlestown, blacksmith, whose wife (their mother) was Mary. There were two daughters, Mary and Hannah, the latter the wife of William Green, and afterwards of Thomas Brown, so it will be readily seen that the

children of William Green were the grandchildren of the above Mary Carter.

In this connection it may be interesting to note that John Green, Sen., of Charlestown, in 1649, sold to John Knight of Woburn, one dwelling house in Woburn, also 80 acres of arable and meadow land, which all appertained to the said John Green and his son John, "lying being at the southwest end of the town of Woburn and surrounded on all sides by the Common of the said town." This was originally one of the Waterfield lots, and John Green was a brother of William Green, Sen. All these lands we have mentioned are now situated in the westerly part of Winchester.

April 4, 1671. John Green, son to William Green, late of Woburn, acknowledges the receipt of all the estate willed him by William Green his father, having received the said estate of his "much respected uncle John Carter, Senior, of Woburn," etc. The same John Green received of the same person, a certain portion of the estate of his "loving brother Ebenezer Green," which he agrees to pay his brother, etc. Similar receipts were signed by other parties to the Green estate, viz., Thomas Knowlton, for the portion of his wife Hannah Green, daughter of William Green; John Green; John Snow of Woburn, "as the full of" his wife's portion by "her father William Green," etc.

There is a lawsuit on file in the Middlesex County Court regarding William Green's house, from which it would appear that the house stood very near Capt. John Carter's house, but the papers are not immediately at hand, so we say nothing further about it.

"An acknowledgment of a gift of land of Thomas Carter, senior, unto his son-in-law, William Green, lying in Woburn," is recorded in the Charlestown Book of Possessions. Meaning half his lot at Woburn and other lands there: the whole lot containing 75 acres; the transfer dated 1647.

30. JOHN RUSSELL. House alluded to in the records in 1680, where the north end of Rag Rock was mentioned in them, and the highway there from the "West end into the town by John Russell's" is mentioned, now Bedford and Kilby streets. This highway was also the "country road from Concord," mentioned as such in 1709, and continuing thus in the present century as a part of the route to Salem, where the farmers found a market for their produce. The present Jacob Wright, born 1809, who resides on the spot occupied by John Russell's house well remembers seeing his father with his team join the marketers from Concord on the way to Salem in his early days. The present Mr. Wright was born in the original Russell house and so was his father Jacob Wright (born 1769). The place was bought by Jonathan Wright, grandfather of the present Jacob. The house was old, and it was torn down in 1835, and on its cellar Mr. Wright's present house was built. Mr. Wright well remembers the September gale of 1815, and says he saw a barn belonging to the place, divided and blown down by the wind. This event made a very profound impression on his mind. He says the old house faced to the south in the direction of the Canal. It would, therefore, be back to the road. The premises were described in 1798 (1800) thus: "Jacob Wright: 1 dwelling house, 32 by 29, 12 windows; house 1 story; with one quar-

ter acre of land on which the house stands bounded north on the road [Kilby street] ....1 barn, 40 by 30, with a lean-to 20 by 10....1 farm of 30 acres, bounded S. on Elisha Tottingham, W. on John Flagg, N. W. on Capt. Benjamin Wyman, N. on Josiah Converse, E. on the road." The farm was, therefore, on the opposite side of the road from the house. John Russell and son John were elders or lay preachers of the Baptist denomination, and though there were members, no church of that order existed at that early day in Woburn; but the junior Russell was pastor of the Boston Baptist church, about 1670. The father for a long period was sealer of leather for Woburn, and both father and son were shoemakers by trade, apparently. Their religious sentiments differed from the community generally, and they endured a species of persecution for them. Our Baptist friends should not forget the spot where these early members and preachers lived, in noting spots of interest connected with the history of their sect in Woburn.

31. JAMES BRITTON. Died 1655. His widow's houseplot was an outside lot, next to the town common in 1654 and 1674. She married Isaac Cole, 1659, who died in 1674, and she died his widow, in 1687. In 1694 the Britton houselot, "that was Isaac Cole's," was the property of John Fowle. In 1674 Isaac Cole, of Hampton, millwright, and Jacob Cole, of Charlestown, felt-maker, administrators of Isaac Cole's estate, sell to James Fowle, shoemaker, 1 dwelling house, barn etc., with 4 acres land adjoining; the land bounded N. by Abraham Jaquith, S. by town common, W. by the highway. The transfer also included the wellknown lot of Cole at Woburn Centre, and showed how the Fowle family came into possession of the Cole property. James Fowle having died in 1690, his son John Fowle has succeeded him by 1694, in the ownership of the Britton lot. See Benjamin Butterfield (14) for the approximate position of this lot, which was in the easterly part of Woburn.

32. THOMAS FULLER. Spent much of his life in Middleton, Mass. The only mention of buildings connected with his name in Woburn is where he was granted by the town the contents of fourpoles square of swamp next "his shop," in 1657; but where this shop or his house was located is not stated in the records. Having married the widow of John Wyman (12) in 1684, and from the fact that in the year his name was joined in a tax list with Jonathan, Seth, and Jacob Wyman (sons of John Wyman) as paying one tax together, it would appear that they owned jointly one estate, probably the estate of John Wyman, or its parts. The last mention of his name in Woburn is in a tax list of December, 1686; after which it would appear that he lived in Middleton.

In concluding this division of our subject, it is well to remark that the title of the estates of 7 of the original signers to the town orders of 1640 can be traced directly by extant records to the Charlestown grants of 1638, otherwise known as the Waterfield (or Woburn) grants, recorded in that year in the Charlestown Book of Possessions, a record which has been published by the Record Commission of the City of Boston; and which plot in its relation to Woburn has been illustrated by a map published by the

Winchester Historical and Genealogical Society, called the Waterfield Map of 1638. This map though a compilation, is a reasonably accurate one and serves fairly well to show the approximate location of all the lots which were mentioned in the extant records. Doubtless these records are imperfect and other lots which should be mentioned as belonging to the Charlestown grants are not found recorded in them. Of the 7 homestead estates, above mentioned, which can be directly traced to the Waterfield grants, are those of Edward Johnson, Edward Converse, John Mousall, Samuel Richardson, Thomas Graves, John Carter, and William Green. Of course others had lots in Waterfield, but not the lots on which they settled in the new town of Woburn, for all citizens of Charlestown had them, though it is probable that many of these individuals never saw, and certainly never settled upon the lots thus granted. John Carter and William Green acquired their title through their father Thomas Carter. Aside from the general location, the following 6 estates of this group remain to be more closely identified;—William Learned, John Sears, John Tidd, Henry Tottingham, Benjamin Butterfield, and James Britton; and every one of the six is to be found in the easterly part of present Woburn. We have found it difficult, and at present state of our information, impossible, to connect these estates in a satisfactory manner with estates mentioned or described, in the list of 1798, intended to show as near as possible the condition in 1800. Two of the signers of the orders of 1640 who had early left the town, Henry Jefts and James Parker, have no record to determine their residence. One, Richard Lowden, never settled in Woburn. Another, Thomas Fuller, having spent a part of his life here only, left little in the records to show where he had lived and the locality remains uncertain. It is creditable to the greater number that so large a majority acquired a substantial foothold in the new town, and that most of this majority remained to the end of their lives.

We are aware that we have gone contrary to some accepted tradition in assigning the location of the homestead of Edward Johnson. The proof is to be found in Lewis & Co's. History of Middlesex County, vol. I, p. 455, and the position was confirmed a few years ago by four gentlemen, who, with deeds in hand, visited some of the important bounds.

We are aware also that we differ from former published authorities in reference to the location of the homesteads of the three Richardsons; but this subject has been made a special study on the part of one or more individuals in recent years, and their conclusions would appear to be correct.

We differ likewise with the former published History of Woburn in the location of Kendall's mill and Francis Kendall's house, which, from presumption would appear to be located near it. We have assigned the location of Francis Kendall's house, and would assign his mill, not on J. R. Kendall's estate, but at the junction of present Willow and Lexington Streets, where a part of the dam and the mill race are still to be seen. The building of Willow street has mostly obliterated the dam. This position of the mill was affirmed by one of the owners

of the property, now deceased, and apparently with correctness. The mill on the J. R. Kendall estate was of much later date than this one.

These matters are mentioned for the benefit of future historians who may not easily understand the difference in the statements.

The following brief mention of certain points of interest in the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries is here made, not with a view of speaking of them at that length that their importance demands, but in the way of a cursory allusion.

The site of the TOWN SCHOOL HOUSE, 1713—1808, was on the spot where the Unitarian Church edifice now stands, corner of Pleasant and Winn Streets, and this was the only schoolhouse in present Woburn limits from 1713 to 1760. This schoolhouse was erected by private subscription and schools were originally, and often, kept in private houses, and the same school would be kept for a while each in a number of different neighborhoods. The above schoolhouse was removed to make way for the edifice of the First Congregational Society erected in 1809, and was transferred to a spot in the limits of the Second Burying Ground on present Montvale Avenue, where it is remembered by many of our older citizens. After 1790 a greater interest, than formerly, was excited in the public schools in all of the communities in this vicinity and active steps were taken to improve them, and soon after 1792 nine new schoolhouses in Woburn were built.

MEETING HOUSE HILL, the well known height in Woburn Centre, adjoining the Common, was named for the SECOND EDIFICE of the First Congregational Society, which stood on its westerly slope on the late Ruth Leathe's estate, a little to the north and in the rear of her present house, where the remains of its foundation could be seen till a recent date. This meeting house stood from 1672 to 1752, or eighty years as a house of worship, and for fifty-eight years as the only place of worship for the entire town, then including Wilmington, Burlington and Winchester. It was taken down, with the design of building a TOWN HOUSE of smaller size out of its remains, to be situated on the same spot. Action on this subject first appears in 1754, but the town house still remained unfinished in 1762, and it continued to stand, though in a neglected condition, many years after. In the Revolutionary War it was used as a place of deposit for fish and military stores, and it is interesting to know that it was selected as the place for the company of Woburn minute-men, or picked men, "to exercise in." The formation of this volunteer military company or society, in Woburn was undertaken by the citizens at a meeting at the house of James Fowle, Esq., as early as January 4, 1775, the company having agreed "to show arms once a month, according to law;" later, in April, 1775, they were all present at the engagement at Lexington and Concord! After the Revolution, Mr. Zebadiah Wyman used the town house for some time as a barn. At length it was sold to Col. Loammi Baldwin, who took it down. Out of its materials a house was built, which is still standing on the estate of one of his descendants at Central Square, the house now numbered 725 Main street, and portions of it have been seen at recent date upon the estates of other Woburn citizens.

The name of MEETING-HOUSE HILL is undoubtedly coeval with the building of the meeting-house on it, in 1672. In 1784 the hill was surveyed by town authority preparatory to its sale to private parties. By its sale and that of other public lands, the town paid its debts contracted during the Revolutionary War. The hill was a part of the gift of land of George Bunker to the town, the earliest mention found of his land being in the Charlestown Book of Possessions under the date of 1638.

The second OLD BURYING PLACE in the present limits of Woburn is that near Meeting-House Hill, on the present Montvale Avenue. This was opened for interments in 1794. A minute history of it has already been published (Woburn Record of Deaths, pp. 65-154. Epitaphs).

In relation to the HOUSES OF THE EARLY TOWN MINISTERS—the town for a period of more than ninety years having but one church and one place of public worship for all its inhabitants—a few facts are here presented, which may be useful to those investigating the subject.

THOMAS CARTER, for the period 1642—1684, lived in a house built by the people in 1642, which stood on Pleasant Street, facing the Common, where the old Cooiidge house, later known as the Sylvanus Wood house stands, now 23 Pleasant Street. This house stood on what was before Mr. Carter's ownership, public land. This place was owned and occupied by his descendant Miss Mary Carter, in 1800. The house of REV. JABEZ FOX, 1679—1703, was the next house to Rev. Thomas Carter's house on the same street, and stood on the present Public Library estate, on a site in front of the present edifice of the library, but nearer the street. Like Mr. Carter's place this estate was originally public property before Mr. Fox owned it. The house of Mr. Fox was built by the town in 1679, and was occupied by himself and his son, Rev. John Fox, for a period of seventy-six years, or till 1756, when the younger minister Fox died. The house as built was 40 feet long, 18 feet wide, and 13 feet stud. There was a stack of three brick chimneys with it, a cellar under it and a lean-to at the chimney end. The house was standing in the earlier part of the present century, and we have met old people who recalled it. The title of both the Carter and Fox ministerial property has been carefully traced and an abstract published at the expense of the Public Library (Bulletin for 1884). The REV. JOHN FOX, 1703—1756, dwelt in the same house occupied by his father and predecessor in the ministry of the church in Woburn, which has just been described. During the ministry of the Rev. John Fox other churches were set off from the first church and that church from 1730 continued as the church of the First Parish, and we confine our account to the ministers of the original church.

EDWARD JACKSON, 1729—1754, was a bachelor, and according to a reliable tradition, corroborated by other evidence he lived or boarded during the earlier part of his stay in Woburn, in the house of Jonathan Poole, Esq., on the spot where John Johnson, Esq., has lately moved off a house on the lot at the corner of Main and Charles Streets, and included the large lot of land of the present Wyman heirs, extending from

that point to Beach Street. This Poole lot came into the possession of Zebadiah Wyman, Esq., and is described in the account of his estate taken in 1794. The Poole place has had many different owners. At one time it was a Hastings place. Jonathan Poole, Esq., was a neighbor of the Burbeens a little further down the street-where the Unitarian parsonage now is,—and Joseph Burbeen, styled minister, married Esquire Poole's only daughter, as is interestingly told in the Burbeen Genealogy recently published. Mr. Poole and Mr. Jackson had a serious quarrel, and, of course, separated; but where Mr. Jackson lived afterwards has not transpired, probably at some public house, perhaps, James Fowle, Esq.'s—the Central House estate, 442 Main Street.

JOSIAH SHERMAN, 1756—1775, lived in a house which stood on the site of Mrs. Lewis Shaw's residence, 529 Main street.

SAMUEL SARGEANT, 1785—1799, resided in a house which stood on or near the site of Dr. John M. Harlow's present residence, 505 Main Street.

JOSEPH CHICKERING, 1804--1821, bought a house immediately after his settlement in Woburn, which is still standing, corner of Pleasant and Reed Streets. This is known to the older citizens as the Oliver Bacon house. There was a former house on the site, which belonged to Benjamin Simonds at the close of the eighteenth century. This house was burned in 1797, and Simonds then built the present (1892) house. Simonds, in 1804, sold the property to "Joseph Chickering, clerk," the estate being described as "a messuage of 43 acres, bounded southerly on the road from Woburn meeting-house to Lexington, except a small part of the way on land of heirs of John Flagg until it comes to land belonging to Loammi Baldwin, Esq., thence by said Baldwin's land and land of heirs of John Hastings, which was formerly the Fox place, to the road first mentioned, "being the farm sold to Benjamin Simonds, in 1787, by Isaac Johnson, administrator of Josiah Johnson, Esq., afterwards conveyed by Simonds to Elisha and William Penniman and by them reconveyed to Simonds in 1802. Thus we gain from a single deed considerable history of this estate.

JOSEPH BENNETT, 1822—1847, lived first in the house known of late as the Wheeler house at North Woburn, then in the Clapp house at Central Square. He afterwards bought the house now occupied by Dr. F. W. Graves, 38 Pleasant Street, built by Dr. Francis Kittredge in 1824, where he lived and died.

JONATHAN EDWARDS, 1848—1856 and DANIEL MARCH, 1856—1862, 1879—1892, the next pastors, are still living, and can better speak for themselves than anyone else can for them, and with the mention of their names we leave the subject.

The equivalent of the REV. THOMAS CARTER PLACE at the beginning of the nineteenth century was the estate of Mary Carter, a single woman. Her estate was described in 1798, as consisting of 1 house, 36 by 28; 19 windows; the house 2 stories in front, 1 story in rear; the house old (perhaps, Rev. Thomas Carter's original house, or an enlargement of it?) There was a barn, 48 by 21; a farm of 14 acres, bounded S. E. on the road; N. on the burying-yard, and Josiah Fowle and Capt. Reed; W. on Joshua Wyman; S. on the Hastings place (formerly the Fox place, Revs. Jabez and John). Of the 14 acres, 10

were of poor meadow land. There were other lands not needing to be described; 2 lots near, and another afar off.

It is interesting to compare this description with one of more than a century earlier and note the slight changes in the two. "Entered (in the town records) in the year 1677: Records of lands belonging to Mr. Thomas Carter, first pastor of the church of Christ at Woburn. *Imprimis*,one parcel of land, by estimation—acres [16 acres, 1684] more or less, situate in High street, on which the said town erected a house at the public charge of the inhabitants, and gave it with said land to Mr. Thomas Carter and his heirs forever, the land being bounded by the land of Mr. Robert Long north and west."

When the REV. JABEZ FOX first came to Woburn in 1679, the selectmen agreed with John Brooks to hire his dwelling-house for the use of Mr. Fox, and Brooks was also to pasture his horse and provide a convenient garden plot, and also to set the house in repair, and all this was "to be for the use of the Reverend Mr. Fox, the whole year 1679," and for which the town was to pay. The house in question is supposed to have been the small Mousall house, later a Brooks house, which stood till 1833, and which has been supposed to be the first house erected in the present limits of Woburn. This house stood very near the meeting-house of that date, on Meeting-House Hill, and was located on Montvale Avenue, in front of the present old burying ground there, and from the fact that in 1679, it would appear to be out of repair, and hence old, at a period not far from forty years after the original Mousall house was built, it may be supposed with reason, to be the same house. Later, in the year 1679, this house apparently proving insufficient the town undertook the erection of the much larger house for their minister, Mr. Fox, which we have described in the body of our article.

When on Nov. 5, 1679, the town gave Rev. Jabez Fox a call to be their minister for his lifetime, the town agreed to give him "half that piece of land reserved for a church officer on the west of John Tidd's land." and other lands; the reference above being to the lot on which his house was afterwards built. To show the antiquity of apple trees in Woburn, the town in 1680, owed Dea. Converse for "Mr. Fox's apple trees," the sum of £1; an article probably for the ornamentation of his place, as well as for a moderate benefit. In 1697, Jabez Fox", minister of the gospel," bought of John Eames, a small tenement about 8 acres, near the meeting-house. The premises contained one small dwelling house and land, part orchard and part meadow, all fenced in, by part stone wall, part rail-fence and part hedge, and bounded east by the King's highway (Main Street); west corner by the town's upland (Academy Hill); southerly by land that was John Baker's, now James Burbeen's (side towards the lawn in front of the Dow mansion); southwest by land of Thomas Carter; north and northwest by land of John Tidd. This land, it will be noticed, was on the easterly side of Pleasant Street, and opposite to the house of Rev. Jabez Fox, and John Eames had bought it of his father. Robert Eames, in 1697. The Tidd land, above mentioned, was thus bounded west by the land of Rev. Jabez Fox, in 1702. REV. JOHN FOX succeeded his father in the ownership of these lands,

to whom the town granted, in 1707, a small piece of ground, half a rod wide, lying in front of his house, to make a small impalement extending the length of his house. He gained a full possesion after the death of his mother in 1736. Rev. John devised the property to his son Jonathan Fox, 1753; and died in 1756. Jonathan was the Capt. Fox, and later the Col. Fox, of that period. On the estate was a dwelling-house or mansion house and a barn in 1772. The property was alienated from the Fox family after the death of Col. Fox in 1790, or, in 1791, when it came into the possesion of the Trowbridge or Hastings families of Cambridge, it being devised by E. Trowbridge, in 1793, in trust for John and Lydia Hastings. Hence having acquired the name of the Hastings place, it is mentioned under that name in the Woburn schedule of 1798, as the property of Lydia Hastings (Hon. Francis Dana, Trustee) consisting of "50 acres of land, called the Fox place, bounded southwest on Horn Pond, and southeast on Joseph Lawrence." There is no other reference to it, or to its possessing any buildings upon it, and this may be due to the incomplete state of the list whence the information is derived. Lawrence, who lived down Main Street on the site where the Lawrence School House stands, had, in 1798, a lot of 23 acres of land, called houselot, mowing, and pasturing, "bounded south on Dea. Josiah Richardson's land; west on Horn Pond; *north on Major Hastings, Mary Carter*, and Sarah Wyman; east on Jacob Wright." It will thus be seen that reference is here made to large tracts of land owned formerly by the ministers Carter and Fox on the present Academy Hill, and by their descendants, Mary Carter's "15 acres of land, called the Shrub Oak Pasture," in 1798, occupied in part the estates now owned by Hon. Edward D. Hayden and Mrs. Choate, on the hill, and many of the oaks are still left. The lot was known by this name as late as 1846, per plans. Thus the Fox place was held in the family name from 1679 to 1791, or a period of 112 years.

Our information concerning the property of REV. EDWARD JACKSON is extremely meagre. He loaned a sum of money to John Fowle, secured by a bond, in 1743, and Nathaniel Felton and Joshua Hammond, heirs of the Rev. Edward Jackson, gave a receipt in full, in 1755, to James Fowle, for an amount he owed the Jackson estate.

The description of the estate occupied by REV. JOSIAH SHERMAN was in 1798, as follows: "Lydia Hastings,—Hon. Francis Dana, Trustee, owner: 1 house, 38 by 32....2 stories; with 27 windows, 283 square feet of glass; with 1-4 acre of land adjoining said house." Valued at $1000, one of the most expensive houses in the town. A marginal reference mentions Ebenezer Hadley as occupant. Rev. Josiah Sherman left Woburn in 1775, and was noted somewhat for his extravagance, as well as for his great eloquence,—the mantle of the latter having descended in this present day to his great grandson, Chauncy M. Depew, of New York! With the above estate was "1 barn, 62 by 30, with a shed, 36 by 12, one corn barn, 18 by 10; and 11 1-2 acres of land, on which the barn stands, bounded west on the country road (Main Street); south on Capt. Joshua Reed (the estate now occupied by the Metho-

dist Church edifice, recently erected)." There were "2 acres of pasture called the Burbeen pasture, west and north on Elisha Tottingham" (lately the land of the Plympton sisters; now traversed by Plympton Street; the Tottinghan house, stood where the house of the late George Flagg now stands, corner of Main and Kilby Streets); and "6 acres of land, bounded south on Joshua Reed, east, north, and west on Tottingham (on the same side of the street as the former, and near it). Fortunately for posterity a representation of this large mansion house has been preserved in the view of Woburn in 1820. At that date it was occupied by DR. SYLVANUS PLYMPTON, the elder, who had previously occupied an estate at the other or southerly end of Main Street. This house we have been describing was burned in 1836, and stood, as we have before said, on the site of the present residence of Mrs. Lewis Shaw, 529 Main Street.

In corroboration of our position in relation to the history of this house, we have the statement in the handwriting of Rev. Josiah Sherman himself, preserved in the Public Library in a document (Wyman Coll., 2: 83), in which he speaks of "my now dwelling house, and my other buildings, with the land adjoining, situate in Woburn, aforesaid, containing about thirteen acres.... butting westerly on the country road leading from Woburn to Medford; northerly by land of Elisha Tottingham; easterly on land of Eleazer Flagg Poole; southeasterly, partly on land of Benjamin Edgell and partly on land of Joshua Reed, with all the privileges and appurtenances to the premises belonging," May 13, 1771. This was a deed given as collateral security by "Josiah Sherman of Woburn, clerk," to Benjamin Waldo, of Boston, gent., for a loan of £100 by the latter. The Benjamin Edgell estate mentioned above was afterwards the estate of the Rev. Samuel Sargeant.

The estate occupied by the REV. SAMUEL SARGEANT was described in 1798 as follows: "Reverend Samuel Sargeant: one dwelling house, the front 42 feet by 18....the ell, 24 feet by 18....the whole of the house 1188 square feet; 20 windows, 181 squares of glass;—one wood house, 15 by 12, with a garden before said house, containing about 20 square rods; one shed, not finished, 24 feet by 8." Value $700. Also "one barn, 28 feet by 18; a lean-to, 28 feet by 8....one farm containing 28 acres, bounded west on the country road, south on Joshua Wyman, Esq., north on the Hastings farm and Joshua Reed."

It has been already demonstrated in the sketch of Woburn in Lewis & Co.'s "History of Middlesex County," vol. i. p. 370, that the above place owned by the Rev. Samuel Sargeant at the close of the eighteenth century, was the property earlier in the century of DR. SAMUEL BLODGETT, a well-known physician, who resided in Woburn from 1769 to 1789. Dr. Blodgett was on his first coming an inmate of the family of Benjamin Edgell, who records that "Doct. Blodgett came June 20, 1769," and "left on July 20, 1772." At this time, according to the evidence of the Sherman conveyance already quoted, Benjamin Edgell occupied the Sargeant property, and it was in this house that Dr. Blodgett then lived. Dr. Blodgett having acquired the property, conveyed it, in 1777, to Jonathan Amory of Boston, the description corresponding

with that of Sargeant's estate, in 1798, viz: "28 acres, land and buildings in Woburn, bounded west by country road, north by lands of Joshua Reed and William Scott, east by land of heirs of Eleazer Flagg Poole, deceased, and Isaac Stone, and south by land of Joshua Wyman." The buildings of this estate stood, as we have already mentioned, on the present site of the house of Dr. Harlow, 505 Main street.

Benjamin Edgell came to Woburn from Lexington about 1768, and after removal from the Sargeant house lived in the house of his wife's parents at Central Square, an account of which is given in another place in these sketches.

The well-known house of the REV. JOSEPH CHICKERING on Pleasant Street, is described in 1798, under the name of Benjamin Simonds, as follows [the house was then new] viz: "1 dwelling-house, 38 by 27,... 27 windows....the house two stories; the land on which the house stands: one front room and the two front chambers not finished....one barn, 36 by 27....one farm, 43 acres, bounded south on a town road [Pleasant Street]: east on Major Hastings [the Fox place, where the Library building now is, the land of that lot extending to North Warren St.], and Joshua Wyman [Town Meadow]: north and west on John Flagg [his homestead being on the William Flagg place on Burlington Street, the lands of his estate extending to Rag Rock and vicinity]; 7 acres, north and east on a town road, west on John Flagg, south on heirs of James Fowle; one shoemaker's shop, 20 by 14, 8 windows, 48 square feet of glass, a wash room, 14 feet by 11." The house was valued at $1,000. and is still standing, a good illustration of the best houses of that date.

After speaking of the town ministers, one's thoughts are directed to the TOWN MEETING HOUSES. We have already alluded to the first meeting house, 1642—1672; and to the second, 1672—1752; and now we speak of the third in this parish, erected, like the others at the expense of the town. This meeting house was raised in 1748, and finished in 1752; and its steeple, or tower, was put up in 1749. The structure was burned in 1808. The fourth meeting house, its successor, was erected in 1809. The THIRD MEETING HOUSE, like the first, stood on the common, but on a different spot from its predecessor. It stood on a knoll "on the training field, on the west side of the country road, as near the road as it can conveniently be set," according to the contemporary records. This knoll, of which no signs have been seen in the present generation, may be represented by the spot, where the flagstaff now stands, and the house stood in the angle of the two streets at that place, and the writer is of the impression after an examination of the town map of 1794, that the structure, though a reasonably sized one, stood more in that direction than it did in the direction of the central point in the line of that side of the Common, as some have supposed. The burning of this meeting house, in 1808, was an event that left a strong impression on the minds of the people. It occurred on the anniversary of Bunker Hill Battle, and was burned to the ground at eleven o'clock at night, and it was a deed thought to be purposely done. In less than an hour, says a contemporary account, it was reduced to ashes. Though circumstances evinced a design on the

part of some one to destroy the house, no one was arrested on suspicion of being connected with it. The incendiary, whoever it was, made an effective job of it, and the performance was soon over. The town's stock of gun powder was kept in the tower of this house, according to custom, but its explosion was comparatively trifling, conveying the impression that a large portion of it was removed before the fire. The writer of this, when a boy, was told by MRS. MARY COOLIDGE YALE, an intelligent lady, a descendant of the Carter family, living in the Carter—Coolidge house, now 23 Pleasant Street, and whom many of our citizens will remember, that she saw this meeting-house afire and heard the explosion of the powder in the tower, which sounded very loud to her and frightened her very much. She was then a young woman just married (1808) and was at home with her mother. Mrs. Yale's mother was Mary Carter Brewster, daughter of Seth and Hannah Brewster, and born in Wrentham, March 25, 1761. Mrs. Brewster was Hannah Carter, daughter of Thomas and Hannah Carter; Thomas being a grandson of Rev. Thomas Carter, whose homestead he inherited. Mrs. Yale said that her mother being a young girl at the time of the Battle of Lexington, in 1775, and staying at the Carter house at the time, was awakened suddenly in the night, by the firing of a cannon near the house on the approach of that eventful day, to alarm the minute men to oppose the advance of the British. Mrs. Yale dwelt upon the fear that this alarm caused the young girl and made it vivid how deeply the community was stirred.

A contemporary of the third church edifice was the edifice in the same parish of the THIRD RELIGIOUS SOCIETY, so called, concerning which little is known than that it stood opposite the Sherman-Plympton house of former days, or, in other words, opposite to the present residence of Mrs. Lewis Shaw on Main St. It was an unfinished building, and was used probably about ten years, or from 1746 to 1756, and perhaps a few years after. But the society soon ceased to have an existence and was reunited with the first. In the building used for public worship was, on the testimony of Mrs. Plympton, wife of Dr. Sylvanus Plympton, Senior, (quoted in Sewall's Woburn, p. 308), a large room or hall, fitted up for the purpose, but nothing else in the way of a regularly built meeting-house. The remains of this house were still to be seen in 1832 (Newhall).

Another contemporary of the third church edifice in this parish was the first church edifice of the BAPTIST SOCIETY, opened for worship in 1794. This building first stood on the site now marked by the numbers 535 to 539 Main Street, and now stands a little north of its original site, at 549 Main Street. It was succeeded for religious purposes by the present Baptist church edifice, opposite the common, in 1828. The pulpit of the original church is to be found at the Warren Academy building, while the original building in the past has been used as a comb factory and shoe manufactory, and perhaps for other secular purposes. Benjamin Edgell's house, where the Baptist church first worshipped, was at Central Square. The present Baptist church edifice, originally a fine model, was erected in 1828.

The FOURTH MEETING HOUSE of the

first society was erected in 1809, where the Unitarian edifice now stands, facing the common. A fine illustration of it is given in the view of Woburn in 1820. It was taken down in 1840. A great deal might be said about it, but as it was the first of the series of six church edifices of this society, to be paid for principally by the sale of pews, whereby a fund of $3,000 was acquired, additional to the amount needed for the edifice,—we here leave the subject, the town as a town having no hand in its erection.

An important event in the history of Woburn was the opening of the MIDDLESEX CANAL. This was one of the earliest canals in this country. It was begun in 1794 (surveyed in 1793); crafts were afloat on it in 1802; and it was opened its entire length in 1803. It passed through Woburn; Loammi Baldwin, one of its projectors, lived in Woburn; and the beauty of the scenery along its banks gave an added interest to Woburn as a place of pleasant resort. Hence the success of the MISHAWUM HOUSE (site of Griffin Place's house, Main Street), which was a prosperous house of resort before 1813, when a curious advertisement appears concerning it. Hence the success of the HORN POND HOTEL, (Hon. E. W. Hudson's house, Canal Street,) which attained its height of greatest prosperity about 1835. The opening of WARREN ACADEMY in 1827, when Academy Hill was a wilderness, was another event of important influence in the development of Woburn, exercising an elevating effect on the educational sentiment of the place. The first house in the present populous HIGHLAND DISTRICT was not erected till about 1845. This house is the one now occupied by Hon. Joseph G. Pollard, 18 Green Street. ACADEMY HILL did not begin to become thickly populated till about 1846, or after the opening of the WOBURN BRANCH RAILROAD in 1844. WADE BLOCK, a new brick structure, then uncommon, was built in 1846. The LOWELL RAILROAD, opened 1835, brought into prominence South Woburn, now Winchester, 1835—1850. At the same time, CHARLES GOODYEAR (1835) started his India rubber factory, on site of present saw factory at Montvale; and in 1839, perfected his great discovery of the India rubber product, by accident, in a store, said to be at Button End in Woburn. At this time (1835) began the silk farm at Montvale, with expectations which soon ended in disappointment; and, in 1836, the WOBURN AGRICULTURAL AND MANUFACTURING COMPANY began its existence and published an elaborate report. We have been informed on good authority that Mr. Goodyear on his first arrival boarded a year in the family of Mr. Putman Emerson, in a house near the railroad bridge in Montvale. He lived afterwards in the house now occupied by Mr. Samson, 280 Montvale Avenue. When he lived with Mr. Emerson his family consisted of several children, of which one died during his stay.

Other things relating to the earlier part of the nineteenth century, such as the WHEELER HOUSE, at North Woburn where a centennial jubilee was held in 1800, or 1801; the CLAPP HOUSE, at Central Square, Main Street, where the frame of the house not now standing, fell at its raising, and caused the death of four persons and the injury of more than twenty others, July 14, 1807; the

POWDER HOUSE, 1812; the private schools; tanning establishments, afterwards on large scale, begun on an important basis about 1814; physicians; lawyers; and many others are already published, and mention of them can be omitted here.

Our historic sites committee in view of their duties to the honored dead who fell in the CIVIL WAR, should remember in their marking of places of honorable and worthy remembrance, the houses of such Woburn officers as MAJOR ELISHA BURBANK and CAPT. SAMUEL I. THOMPSON; and others, such as the Grand Army men may suggest.

We now pass to a brief consideration of some points that are worthy of being marked in the distribution of the places that are to come under the observation of the historic sites committee.

SIR BENJAMIN THOMPSON, COUNT RUMFORD (1753—1814)— eminent man of science, enlightened philanthropist and sagacious public administrator,— prime minister and commanding general of an European army. Do our people generally realize how great a man he was? We fear not. His birthplace at North Woburn, say what you will, is a spot worthy of high honor, reflecting fame on Woburn which she has never acquired, and, perhaps, will never acquire, in any other way. To our present public it is a wellknown site, for the original house has been spared from destruction, and it is now carefully preserved by a society organized principally for that purpose. It is already marked with a sign. In 1800 (more strictly 1798) it was described under the name of Hiram Thompson, as "one dwelling house, 40 by 30; 13 windows; house two stories in front, one in the rear; with twenty square poles on which the house stands, bounded east on the country road." There was with it "one acre, called the house lot, bounded east on the road;" one barn, and "18 acres of land on which the barn stands, bounded west on the country road," the barn being thus on the opposite side of the street. In 1820, the place was occupied by Willard Jones, and in 1832, by his widow, Bridget Jones, the daughter of Hiram Thompson.

After the second marriage of his mother, Rumford lived with her in the house of her husband, Josiah Pierce, which stood opposite the Baldwin mansion on Elm street, all signs of the house having disappeared long ago, with the exception of the trees in front. This was long known as a Pierce place, and the Wheeler place in the rear of it was a part of the estate.

The birthplace of BRIG. GEN. JAMES REED, an eminent officer of the Revolution, was on the Sylvanus Wood farm, so called, at Woburn West Side. Gen. Reed was born in 1724, and died in 1807. He was the son of Joseph and Sarah, and died in Fitchburg; was a captain, lieutenant-colonel, and colonel, beginning his career in the French war. His regiment, the 2d. New Hampshire, held a rail-fence with John Stark at the Battle of Bunker Hill. The father of Gen. Reed resided on the estate of his father in Woburn. The estate was located on the northerly corner of Locust Street at its junction with Cambridge Street. The house was standing till within recent years. Joseph Reed, the grandfather of Gen. Reed, was a sergeant in Woburn train band, 1701—13; ensign, 1713—

15; lieut., 1716—41; capt.—lieut. it is supposed, 1739—40. A captain-lieutenant was a lieutenant who commanded a company, when its captain was performing the duties of a field officer; all such officers, and even those of higher rank, being captains of companies in their own town, a custom which prevailed, probably till the Revolutionary War. Considerable information regarding Gen. Reed is given in the recently published "History of Fitzwilliam, N. H.," where the General for a time resided. The Woburn Public Library has a photographic likeness of him in its possession, taken from a portrait. Though his birth is not directly found on the Woburn record, authorities agree in pronouncing him a native of Woburn. A James Reed, son of Thomas and Sarah, born in Woburn, January 8, 1723, may be intended for him, and probably was.

The farm of Sylvanus Wood in the westerly part of Woburn was described in 1798, as "one house, 36 by 18.....6 windows.....2 stories, with half one acre of land adjoining said house..... one barn, 40 feet by 30.....one farm, containing 100 acres of land, bounded south and east on a town road, northwardly and westly on Sharp's land."

Previously to the ownership of Wood, this farm was owned by the Douglass family, who left it about 1794. Robert Douglass, Senior and Junior, father and son, were with Wood, prominent Revolutionary characters in Woburn. SYLVANUS WOOD began his military career on the Common at Lexington, on the morning of April 19, 1775, and there received with the Lexington company the first fire of the British troops. Living at Obadiah Kendall's house, a short distance below his farm described above, he heard before daybreak on that morning the ringing of the Lexington bell and responding to the alarm, with the younger of the two Douglasses, mentioned above, and repaired to the field at Lexington, and with his companion, both being fully armed and equipped, joined the Lexington company formed on the Green. Not long after they had taken their positions, the British appeared in front of them and the battle began. Wood left a very important deposition describing his actions on the morning of this battle, and Mr. Alvah Wood, his grandson, has collected many facts concerning him, which we hope will soon be published.

After the British had left the Common on their way to Concord, Wood, who had retreated with the other Americans, returned, and helped to carry the dead into the meeting-house. He then followed after the British, and some distance from Lexington found a straggling British soldier, on whom he charged, and made a prisoner, claiming, as he always did, that this was the first British prisoner captured by an American in the Revolutionary War. Wood was a member of his brother's company in active service in 1775; and an ensign and a lieutenant, 1776. He was called lieutenant as late as 1806, and died in Woburn in 1840. ROBERT DOUGLASS, JR., who accompanied him to Lexington on the morning of April 19, 1775, became a captain of militia, 1787, and major, 1788; and removed from Woburn to Portland, Maine, in 1794. He also left an interesting deposition of his experience at Lexington Battle which has been published. ROBERT DOUGLASS, SENIOR, the father, who had

been a prominent man in Woburn during the Revolutionary epoch. died, of old age, at Portland, Maine, in 1794. He was one of the male members of the Woburn church. in Dec. 1777. He was then a Presbyterian in sect, an unusual character at that date, in a community composed entirely of Congregationalists. Robert Douglass, Jr., was a member of the Woburn church, accredited as such in February, 1789, and again in 1793. The widow of the father, mentioned as Mrs. Douglass of Portland, joined the Woburn church in 1795. The Douglasses, including the name of Bernard Douglass, who was formerly of Woburn, had erected buildings in Portland, by 1791, '93, '94. etc. Robert Douglass, Jr., then of Portland, Me., was 68 years old. in 1827, the time he made the deposition above referred to. He gives a particular description in it of the situation of his residence in the westerly part of Woburn, on April 19, 1775. and mentions his living there with his father at that time.

The Sylvanus Wood farm is better known to our older people as the Steele place,—Joseph Steele having married Sarah, a daughter of Sylvanus Wood.

Speaking of Revolutionary characters leads us next in order to name COLONEL LOAMMI BALDWIN. who. as a major, led the 180 Woburn men to the field at Lexington and Concord, on April 19, 1775. He has given a careful account of this in his own words. In 1768 he had enrolled himself in a company of horse guards at Cambridge. On June 16, 1775, he was commissioned a lieutenant-colonel in the army then besieging Boston, and on the day following he was a spectator of, but not a participant in, Bunker Hill Battle. He soon became commander of his regiment in active service, and on January 1, 1776, was commissioned colonel of it, and served afterwards with distinction under Washington in New York and New Jersey. We have already spoken of his after career and of his residence, under the heading of his ancestor Henry Baldwin. He was the officer of highest rank furnished by Woburn from her citizens to the American side in the Revolution. A Colonel Robert Greaton, a non-resident, was enlisted in her quota, but beyond the fact that he was the colonel of the 3rd Massachusetts regiment in the regular Continental service, we know nothing about him.

Of Woburn's nine captains furnished to the Continental service, it may be interesting to know something concerning their places of residence in the town, with the description of them given in the official list of 1798 (or 1800).

1. SAMUEL BELKNAP, lieut. and capt. 1775, commanding one of the three stated military foot companies of Woburn at that time. He removed from Woburn to Newburg, N. Y., about 1785. Lived on Main street, in a house on site of present James Russell's residence, near line of Woburn and Winchester. He occupied the house of his ancestor, Thomas Belknap, who came to Woburn from Boston, about 1698. One hundred years after the coming of this ancestor, or in 1798, the estate had Duncan Ingraham for owner, and Benjamin Wheeler and Nathaniel Wyman for occupants, and it had been for some time alienated from the ownership of the Belknap family. The dwelling was then 35 feet long, and 27 feet wide, having 13 windows, and the land

on which the house stood: the house being of two stories in front and one in the rear. The farm with it contained the large number of 140 acres, butting north on Nathaniel Brooks and the road leading to Horn Pond [now Lake avenue]; west on Diana Adams [a large farm of 185 acres, E. on Horn Pond, N. and W. on Jacob Pierce, S. on Winter Pond,—half of the land woodland, young wood]: south on Benjamin Converse and Paul Wyman [Converse had 35 acres of pasture land, bounded north on Winter Pond. in 1798; Wyman had the "Scott Farm," —house very small—the farm containing 70 acres of land, E. on the country road N. on Esquire Ingraham, W. on Benjamin Converse, S. on Daniel Wyman, 1798]; east on Widow Jernsha Richardson and Eleazer Richardson. A plan of this farm was made by Peter Tufts, jr., in 1799, a copy of which is in the hands of J. W. Johnson, Esq. It shows homestead, the great road, a gate, Cross Street, Horn Pond brook, a part of Horn Pond, the little pond at the outlet of Horn Pond, the mill, canal, Winter Pond, etc.

2. BENJAMIN EDGELL, from Lexington, soldier and privateersman in French War, 1755, '56, '57, '58 '59, '60; settled in Woburn, 1768; resided first in a house, which stood where Dr. Harlow's house now stands, 505 Main Street, and latterly in a house where M. Burnham's house has lately stood, Wyman Street. The history of these two places has already been given under TOWN MINISTERS and FRANCIS and JOHN WYMAN, BROTHERS. Edgell had an interesting career. He was a captain in 1776, and died in Woburn in 1819.

3. THOMAS LOCKE, belonged in Burling- latterly the part set off to Lexington.

4. JOSHUA REED, lieut. 1775; capt. 1776; died 1805. His house in 1798, stood on the spot now occupied by the Methodist Church edifice, Main street. It was described as "one house, 34 by 14 ....7 windows....one story....with one half acre of land, on which the house stands, bounded west on the road." With the house were a "woodhouse, 20 by 10," and a "barn, 30 by 20," and one acre of land "on which the barn stands, bounded west on the country road." On the other side of the street was a piece of land of 12 acres, bounded W. on Elisha Tottingham, S. on Mary Carter, and "east on the country road.

5. JONAS RICHARDSON, ensign 1758—9; lieut. 1760—74; capt. 1775. Died 1776.

6. JOSHUA WALKER, lieut. in French War, 1758, also 1759—1774; captain-lieutenant. 1762, and 1775; captain, 1775—1781 in command of one of the three stated military companies of Woburn during the Revolutionary period. Lived in the Burlington part of Woburn, and died in 1798.

7. JOHN WOOD, ensign, 1774; capt., in active service, 1775—76. Lived in Burlington and died in 1809. When very young he served in the army in the French War. His house is shown on a road map of 1797.

8. JESSE WYMAN, soldier in the French War; captain, 1776: commanded during the Revolution, one of the three stated military foot companies in Woburn and performed active service, in addition, in Rhode Island and elsewhere. Died in Woburn in 1782. His estate in 1798 was held in the name of his son-in-law Leonard Thompson, in part, and in the name of his widow, Esther, who had

married Samuel Thompson, Esq. We copy the description in full omitting values:

"LEONARD THOMPSON: one dwelling house, 40 feet by 29, area 1160 square feet, 13 windows, 78 square feet of glass; the house 2 stories high in front and one in rear; with 40 perch of land adjoining said house, bounded south on the road [Wyman Street]. The house old and poor. One barn, 30 feet by 40. 1 acre of land, bounded south on the country road. 34 acres of land, called the Wyman place, bounded north on the country road. 5 acres of woodland, called the Tidd lot, wood cut off, 7 acres of land, southwest on Capt. Benjamin Wyman, south on the country road.

"Esther Thompson, thirds, owner; Jesse Wyman [her son] occupant: 13 acres of land, lying common known by the name of Dunham's land."

The above Jesse Wyman, Junior, in 1798, owned in his own name "one house, 18 by 13....2 windows, 8 square feet of glass,"—supposed to be on Main Street, Winchester, where he afterwards was known to have resided.

The house of Capt. Jesse Wyman stood on the site now occupied by George G. Hart, on Wyman Street. It was one of three old houses we have attempted before to describe in these articles, as connected with the Wyman family.

9. SAMUEL TAY, lieut. 1775; capt. 1776—1784; major, 1784; died 1804. He commanded a company of about fifty men, who marched June 24, 1776, to Ticonderoga, from Woburn, where the company remained five months in service. His house in Woburn and estate adjoining is included in the list of 1798, and described as follows:

"Major Samuel Tay: one dwelling house, 40 feet by 30....16 windows.... house two stories in front, one in rear: with one quarter of acre of land on which the house stands, bounded west on the country road....One very old barn....one farm, containing 100 acres of land, bounded west on the country road, south on Hiram Thompson....

"The house is still standing at 907 Main Street, North Woburn, east side of street.

Samuel Tay was a grandson of Nathaniel Tay, who married Bathsheba daughter of Lieut. John Wyman, May 30, 1677. His father William was born in 1700, in Woburn, and married Abigail Jones, January 2, 1724. Samuel was born Dec. 4, 1738. He married Sarah Johnson, April 27, 1769. Children:

Sarah, born 1770; married Jeduthun Richardson, Jr., 1789.

Abigail Jones, born 1781; married Isaac Eastman, of Concord, N. H., 1807.

Samuel, born 1784.

Francis Johnson, born 1787.

Kate, a blackwoman in Major Tay's family, died of old age, July, 1794. She died actually on August 4, 1794; being found dead in a pasture. After the Tay occupancy of this house, it was known for many years as the home of the Capt. Stephen Nichols family, and as such it is remembered by our oldest citizens.

WILLIAM TAY, a brother of Major Samuel Tay, distinguished himself by his zeal in Lexington Battle. At that time he called himself William Tay, jr., and in a deposition under his own hand, says he was aroused from sleep on that morning by an alarm occasioned by the secret and sudden march of the British troops towards Concord. That he with about 180 of his fellow townsmen, well armed, speedily took their march from Woburn to Concord, and performed their part in the day. In the latter part of the day, when he, with several others were passing by a house near Charlestown, they were fired upon by three British soldiers planted within, and the

fire being returned by his party, two of the British were killed. Thereupon he rushed into the house, seized the survivor, a sergeant, and subdued him by cuffs, till he surrendered himself a prisoner; Tay being then alone with him in the house. Others of the American side came up while he was securing his prisoner and entered the house, when some one of them carried off the weapons of the prisoner, which were afterwards found at Concord, and Tay took legal steps for their recovery. Tay was a lieut. in 1775, and died in 1795. He was born in Woburn, July 11, 1726. His estate adjoined the Woburn and Wilmington line, and consisted of two houses standing near Main Street. In 1798, they were described thus: "William Tay: two dwelling houses. One house, 26 feet by 15....10 windows....the house 2 stories; the land on which the house stands. House new. A shop adjoining said house 18 feet by 10; 2 windows, 13 square feet of glass.

"The other house 34 feet by 24....11 windows....2 stories in front, one in rear; the land only on which the house stands....one horse shed, 60 feet by 10. Two barns: One barn, 60 feet by 22; the other barn, 40 feet by 24, one shed, 50 feet by 12. One farm, containing 255 acres, bounded northwest on Samuel Jaquith, east on Josiah Wright, Samuel Jaquith, and Colonel Baldwin; south on Major Clapp partly, and partly on the road; southwest on Hiram Thompson, and John Converse; west on Colonel Baldwin." Most of our older citizens remember these two houses, the last houses in Woburn on Main street.

A little Tay genealogy is useful in this connection:

I. Nathaniel Tay, married Bathsheba Wyman, 1677. He died 1724; she died 1730. Had a number of children. One of them was II. William, born 1700; married Abigail Jones, 1724 (born 1708, daughter of Samuel and Abigail Jones); she died 1778. He died 1780. He married Widow Bethiah Winn, 1780 (per Book of the Lockes). He was a lieutenant, 1746—1780; the first Lieut. William Tay. He was the father of 13 children or more, among whom were sons, Nathaniel (1724—1758); William (1726—1795); Samuel (1738—1804) and others. III. William, born 1726, son of William II. married Susanna ————, who was born 1723. He died 1795. Susanna, his widow, died 1803. He was the second Lieut. William Tay; the subject of this particular notice, the one who captured the prisoner at Lexington Battle, etc. He was the father of a number of children, among whom were sons William; Archelaus (1751—1776); and Jonathan IV. William son of William (III.) born 1750; married Hannah Pollard of Billerica, 1771. He died 1827. Hannah, his widow, died 1829, aged 80. He was the third Lieut. William Tay: having been a lieutenant from 1801. This William had sons Archelaus (1779—1855); and William (1791—1841) and other children. Thus there were four William Tays in succession.

Nathaniel Tay, (1) lived, it may be supposed, in the house afterwards occupied by Major Samuel Tay; while William Tay, Jr. (III) bought his place, in 1752, of Giles Alexander, who bought of Harvard College, who bought of James Sawyer, who bought of John Holt, in 1749. Old people used to pronounce the name of Tay as *Toy*.

V. Jonathan Tay, born 1753, son of William (III) was the doctor Jonathan Tay, non-resident, who owned 22 acres of land in Woburn, in 1798. On January 8, 1806, Samuel Thompson, Esq., of Woburn, "rode to Sherborn, to Doctor Tay's" (Diary). Jonathan Tay was a physician there, from 1772—1827, 55 years, having gone there from Salem.

No one can write much about the Woburn families in the last century without consulting the diary of Samuel Thompson, Esq. It fairly bristles with references to the name of Tay. The following are a few of the most important.

"1772, Dec. 26. A cart wheel ran over Mr. Joshua Tay.

"1782, July 22. Wm. Tay, Jack freed, etc.

"1795, March 21. At Wm. Tay's Heirs, etc., writing. Mr. Wm. Tay (and

others) died and buried between 16th and 20th, this March. April 20–21. Prise at Wm. Tay's.

"1789, May 7. Fast day. Mr. Sargeant preached. Very windy. (Not the minister, but the day.) William Tay's thigh broke, and otherwise much bruised by Jonathan Kendall's shed blowing down." The entry is repeated by saying he "had his thigh broke" by the shed "blowing down on him." This was an "exceeding cold, backward, dry Spring."

"1794, August 4. Kate Tay died: found dead in pasture: buried 5th." She was an aged blackwoman, living in Major Tay's family.

"1797, Feb. 8. Lydia Tay made great coat (for Diarist.)

"1803, March. Widow of Wm. Tay, deceased, died, say 15th; buried 18th."

A few matters of casual mention first demand our attention at the beginning of this section.

BUTTON END, the locality where the Cedar Street schoolhouse now is. Period after the Revolution. Origin, Button making there. "Button End" is mentioned in Samuel Thompson, Esq.'s, Diary under date of Dec. 31, 1782.

Tanning establishment of DAVID CUMMINGS, 1756; afterward John Cummings, Senior's, 1804. At Cummingsville.

ARK TAVERN, on site of late Daniel Richardson's house, Main Street, opposite entrance to New Boston street. Ancient tavern stand, kept by Capt. Samuel Walker, licensed to keep a tavern, 1683, and others, including Noah Richardson (1703—1756) and Phebe (Walker) Richardson, (died 1776) a granddaughter of Samuel Walker. In 1798 it was owned and kept by Bartholomew Richardson, a son of Noah and Phebe, and was described thus: "Bartholomew Richardson, 2d: one dwelling house, with 1020 square feet area; 22 windows, 125 square feet of glass; house 2 stories; with 40 perch of land on which said house stands, bounded east on the country road....one horse shed, 36 feet by 12....one barn, 36 feet by 20; one barn shed, 36 feet by 12; 3 and three fourths [acres] of land, called the house lot, bounded east on the road." After Bartholomew Richardson the property was owned by Samuel Abbott, after him by Daniel Richardson. Bartholomew Richardson was also a blacksmith, as well as a tavern keeper, and Daniel Richardson told the present writer, that he had frequently dug up the ashes of a long forgotten blacksmith shop, in the garden south of the house.

Daniel Richardson's blacksmith shop stood north of his house, and was removed not long since, and is not the shop mentioned.

Spot where SAMUEL RUSSELL mortally wounded in Bunker Hill Battle, 1775, lived. Same house where Mrs. William Duren now lives, at head of lane, at Durenville, Woburn West Side, near Lexington line. This was the house of Ebenezer Locke, son of William Locke, 2d. This was at "Rock Meadow Plain," in Woburn, and was purchased of Daniel Bloggett, in 1712, including "housing," etc. The above Ebenezer Locke probably built a part only of this house, and he died about March, 1765. Another Ebenezer Locke died 1723.

House of JAMES FOWLE, Esq., where a company of minute men was organized in January, 1775. Site of present Central House, Main Street, an ancient tavern stand, existing from the seventeenth century. Shown in view of Woburn in 1820, as the property of Marshall Fowle. Described in 1798 thus: Widow

Jane Fowle's Thirds....house, 38 by 30: 16 windows. 126 square of glass: with one half acre of land on which the house and wood house stands; the wood house, 25 by 10....One barn, 36 feet and 26 ....5 acres of land adjoining the barn, bounded west on the country road, south on a town road. The barn was on the opposite side of the street from the house, and the 5 acres extended from Main street to Montvale Avenue.

BENJAMIN EDGELL'S house, where the Baptist Church people first worshipped, 1792-1794,-Central Square; mentioned under FRANCIS and JOHN WYMAN, signers of town orders, 1640.

Site where MAJOR JOHN HASTINGS, an officer from Cambridge in the Revolutionary Army, lived- Mrs. Shaw's residence Main street is on the same spot. Noticed under REV. JOSIAH SHERMAN. A younger John Hastings, Capt. 1814, resided on the Poole Place, further up Main street, corner of Main and Charles. Noticed under REV. EDWARD JACKSON in previous papers.

BENJAMIN COOLIDGE, assistant commissionary of clothing in the Revolutionary War. lived during his stay in Woburn in the Mary Carter house, already described under REV. THOMAS CARTER. He came to Woburn from Boston and died in 1820.

COL. JEDUTHUN BALDWIN. a native of Woburn (1732—1788) son of Isaac, was born it is supposed, in a house on the present estate of Thomas B. Coolidge, 784 Main Street, the tradition being that this was the Isaac Baldwin place. Col. Jeduthun Baldwin was a military engineer in the Revolutionary Army, and a captain in the French War.

The site of house of DOCTOR JOHN HAY, with whom Count Rumford studied medicine, 1770—1772, was the present Kimball place, now 732 Main Street. Here is also the site of the "Black House," occupied by Joseph Bartlett. Esq., from 1789 to 1797, the first lawyer to locate in Woburn. The house stood till after 1850. and was called "Black," from the color with which the lawyer Bartlett painted it; a whim to suit himself. His office was in the low one story building below this, at 675 Main street, a building which has been occupied for many years as a dwelling—sometimes called the Poole house.

In 1798, the Barthett house was described thus: "Thomas Holden and Nathan Parker: one dwelling house. 35 feet by 17....the ell. 17 feet by 17....the house two stories; 25 windows, 218 square feet of glass; the land, with the yard before said house, about 2 square rods; one wood house,10 feet by 10." In margin, regarding house: "one front and rear chamber not finished." With the house was a barn. 26 by 31, and a farm of 15 acres. and other lands. The farm was bounded "east on the great road [Main Street]; north and south on Col. Baldwin; west on Leonard Thompson."

NATHAN PARKER died of his injuries from his fall off the Clapp house frame in 1807, when three others were killed and many injured. The estate remained in the possession of his heirs till about 1846. The present house, 732 Main street, was built by CAPT. SAMUEL I. THOMPSON, who fell in battle before Richmond. and died of his wounds, in 1862.

COL. ELEAZER FLAGG of the colonial and provincial period, a native of Woburn, lived, it has been said, at the Dea.

Stephen Richardson place, at Richardson's Mill, on Middle Street. He, being a rich man, may also have occupied the house afterwards of his son-in-law, Jonathan Poole, Esq., corner of Main and present Charles Streets, already alluded to under REV. EDWARD JACKSON. His only daughter married Esquire Poole: still the above is only offered as a suggestion.

COL. JONATHAN TYNG, of the same period, probably lived in the house of the Reverends Fox, having married the widow of Rev. John Fox, who survived him many years. The Tyng lots elsewhere in Woburn, probably belonged to his son, Col. Eleazer Tyng, of Dunstable, who lived for some years in Woburn.

The houses of DANIEL THOMPSON and ASAHEL PORTER should not be omitted in this enumeration. Both of these men fell in the Battle of Lexington, April 19, 1775. Thompson's house in an altered state still stands at Central Square, No. 649 Main Street, and a picture of its present appearance is given in the "Thompson Memorial." In 1798, it was owned by his widow: "Phebe Thompson one house, 36 feet by 18....the house 2 stories; 13 windows....the land on which the house stands, with a garden at the south end of the house, about 20 square poles....One piece of land, containing 10 acres, bounded west on the great road, east and south on my son Daniel Thompson, north on Capt. Benjamin Wyman, with a barn on said land, 30 feet by 21." The house of Asahel Porter is not easy to locate, and the supposition is ventured that, as he had married a daughter of Capt. Timothy Brooks, in 1773, he made his home with his father-in-law, who lived in the Brooks house, on the Mousall estate, near the Common on former Mousall Lane.

The house of SAMUEL THOMPSON, ESQ., the indefatigable diarist, lieutenant in French War, combatant at Lexington, and a man of much influence in his day, next demands our consideration. His house and birthplace are yet standing at North Woburn, on Elm street. It was described in 1798, as two thirds of a dwelling house, as his part; the other third belonging to his son, Jonathan Thompson; one third of his part was two stories, and two thirds one story. The whole house had 22 windows; Samuel Thompson's part 16 windows; and the estate bounded west on the country road [Elm street]; the home lot containing 20 perch of land. The "house lot" of 7 acres was bounded west on the country road, south on Col. Baldwin, and elsewhere on Hiram Thompson. The estate included a chaise house, a barn, and sundry outlying lots of land. Jonathan Thompson, the son, owned the north part of the house. The house is now owned by Jonathan Thompson, a grandson of the Jonathan of 1798.

As the schedule of 1798 was compiled under the supervision of Samuel Thompson, Esq., with the description of his estate we close the series. Other sites and other localities than those we have mentioned may suggest themselves to the minds of the members of the Historic Sites committee. What we have represented is merely a contribution to a very extensive subject. Others can take up the pen where we have laid it down, and doubtless say more. It may be said that in a sense all places are historic, that every place has its record, and in that sense all should receive a notice. But it is undoubtedly true that many places have a greater interest to the public at large than others, and it is also evident that in the space at our command a selection must be made of those supposed to possess an unusual interest.

OLD HOUSES AND HOMES

OLD HOUSES.

Some Interesting Reminiscences and Ancient Items: Mostly Concerning the House supposed to be the First House Erected in the Present Limits of Woburn, called the Mousall House. Also the History of a House Known as the Old Fox House, with a Genealogical Notice of Some Members of the Fox Family.

It is interesting to look upon a house which generations of men have looked upon in their daily walks for a long series of years, and under whose roof-tree men and women in a long succession have been born, lived and died. Such a house is fruitful in reminiscences and in family experiences, and, even in the various and time-destructive aspects of such a house, the structure is pathetic and suggestive to the thoughtful passer-by.

And if such a house with only the ordinary experience of a human family to call attention to it is thus impressive to the observer, how much more then should the community be impressed by the history of a house which has stood since the founding of a community in the wilderness two centuries and a half ago, and which was the first house erected by the incoming settlers, in the limits of what is now left of the area of the original town. Such a house is the one to which the attention of our readers is called in the following communication by Mr. W. R. Cutter.

THE MOUSALL HOUSE AND ESTATE.

Miss Susan Edgell, of Woburn, who remembers perfectly well the house supposed to be the original Mousall house at 23 Montvale Avenue, or very near it, says that the house was burned down after 1830, or before 1835: She thinks it was in the year of the meteoric shower or 1833. The house was very old, never painted, had small windows and very little land, and at last it was not habitable and much out of repair. It was a low one story house, with two rooms, one each side of the hallway, and the chambers were mere attics. In Miss Edgell's girlhood Mrs. Dexter lived alone in this house, her husband having died. This lady died elsewhere, having gone to live with her children, and the house was vacant when burned. She was a remarkably neat and orderly person, much beloved and respected, but quite destitute. Her maiden name was Watts, and her first husband was a Brooks. She was also an aunt (through the Watts family) to John Fowle, 2d, well remembered by many of our citizens.

The above house stood back a very little from the street. A large willow tree in a corner of the lot overshadowed the house on the northeast side, or on the left as one entered the door. There was a stone wall on all sides of the lot, excepting the front. The lot was very small and about what is fenced off now. The lot reached very close to the Chickering monument in the burying-ground behind the place, and there were many lilac bushes of the purple-flowered variety behind the house.

Miss Edgell at the time mentioned lived in the house opposite the old railroad depot, known in later years as the George W. Allen house, but now removed. [In 1794 this was Isaac Brooks's place.]

The town school house stood at this date in the second burying ground, where the hook and ladder house now stands, and near the house where Mrs. Dexter lived. The seats in the schoolhouse were arranged on an inclined plane.

Near by Mrs. Dexter's house, and on the present corner of Montvale Avenue

and Main street, was the Watts house, which was also very old. It was a two story, upright house, with a large elm tree and a plot of green in front. These stood pretty well out into the street and were somewhat in the way of travellers. The well of this house was where the bakeshop used to be 11-13 Montvale Ave.

At this time there were many beautiful trees in the Centre about the Common, and the village aside from the old houses had a very pleasant appearance.

[NOTE.—The Mrs. Dexter mentioned by Miss Edgell was Susanna Watts, second wife of Lieut. Zachariah Brooks, an officer of the Revolution, who died of consumption Feb. 5, 1792. They were married June 21, 1780, and she married a second husband, David Dexter of Atkinson, N. H., Oct. 3, 1799.

Zachariah and Timothy Brooks were both descendants of Deacon John Mousall, thus:

Eunice Mousall, daughter of John Mousall, married John Brooks, son of Henry Brooks. John Brooks inherited one half of the Mousall estate. His son John Brooks (died 1733) was the father of Timothy and Nathan Brooks.

Nathan Brooks was father of Zachariah Brooks, above.

Timothy Brooks (died 1786) was known as Captain and had a large family. In 1794, the deed conveying the second burying ground to the First Parish mentions the lot as a certain piece of land lying in Woburn, called one acre, more or less, and bounded northward on the road leading from "Zebadiah Wyman's brick store to the Mansion House late Capt. Timothy Brooks's, and is bounded at the northeastwardly corner by the thirds lately set to Susanna, the wife of Zachariah Brooks, deceased."

Zebadiah Wyman, father of the above Zebadiah Wyman, married for a first wife Mrs. Elizabeth Brooks, widow of Nathan Brooks above named. The father owned the brickstore before the son had owned it.

"Zebadiah Wyman's Brick Store" mentioned in the above paragraph is described in an official list of real estate in the First Parish in Woburn, in 1798, as follows: "Zebadiah Wyman. One house, 45 feet by 24, area 1080 square feet, two stories high, part brick and part wood; 21 windows, 115 square feet of glass; kitchen, 24 by 27 feet, area 448 square feet. [Value] 1000 [dollars.]" In margin is recorded: "Back Shed, 18 by 10 feet; horse shed, 24 by 10 feet." There was, with other pieces of property named in his schedule, the following piece, which will be recognized as belonging to the above house: "2½ acres, Meeting-House Hill, bounded west and south and east on the road, north on Colonel Loammi Baldwin." The house is still standing, and the property is the late Ruth M. Leathe's estate. It may be interesting to see for how much this land was valued in 1798! It was valued then at $10, per acre; or, for the whole, $25 for the southerly half of this well-known hill!

Capt. Timothy Brooks's "Mansion House," alluded to above is mentioned again in a future paragraph. It was originally a part of the Mousall estate, and came to Brooks by inheritance, as we have shown in the genealogical item stated in the beginning of this note.

In the same official description of real estate in Woburn, in 1798, Mrs. Dexter's place is described as follows under her name of Brooks: "Widow Susanna Brooks, owner; Samuel Watts, occupant. One dwelling-house, 30 feet by 18, area 520 square feet, 6 windows, 28 square feet of glass; with one quarter of acre of land on which the house stands; the house *old* and *poor*: One Shed, 10 feet by 30. [value] 110 [dollars]." In 1801, David Dexter, husband of Mrs. Dexter, was taxed for $200, being the value of his estate in the town of Woburn, taken by the assessors in that year, the first of the present century.

The old Watts house near by the above house, and on the corner of Montvale Avenue and Main Street, was described in the list of 1798, as follows: "Samuel Fowle. One house not tenanted, 36 by 18 [value] 60 [dollars]." The four acres

bounded west on the "Great Road," north on the "Town Road" and on the "Burying Yard," east on the Widow Eunice Wyman, south on the heirs of James Fowle. The value of this land was set at that time at the sum of $200. Samuel Fowle married Polly Watts, Aug. 21, 1797, and James Fowle, jr., married Jane Watts, Nov. 15, 1781.]

Thus Miss Edgell's statements correspond well with the two contemporary descriptions given above.

We continue Miss Edgell's recollections alluding now to the mansion house of Capt. Timothy Brooks.

Another house, which was very large, was situated on the ancient Mousall Lane now Prospect street, beyond or near the S. W. Russell barn of recent years, near where the Electric Light Co's. building now is, and on the same side of the street as the barn. This was an upright house, with room for two families, and was very old. In Miss Edgell's girlhood the Flagg family lived there. It was taken down after the burning of Mrs. Dexter's house.

[This house was described in part, in the list of 1798, as follows: "Elisha Tottingham, owner: Hiram Flagg, occupant. One half of a house, 20 feet by 30, area 600 square feet, 12 windows, 76 square feet of glass: the house two stories, with one quarter of acre of land on which the house stands. [Value] 250 [dollars]" With the house was a barn, 33 by 25. The bounds of the farm connected with this house show the location of the latter. The farm contained 30 acres, and was bounded as follows: north, on a town road; east, on Josiah Fowle; south, on Widow Eunice Wyman; southwest on Polly Wyman. Value at $30, per acre, $900 (1798.)

The other half of the house in 1798 was owned by Mary Wyman, daughter of Zebadiah Wyman who had then lately deceased. It was described thus:

"Mary Wyman, owner: Eunice Wyman, guardian. Jonathan Tyler, occupant. Half an old house, 18 feet by 30, area 540 square feet; 7 windows, 29 square feet of glass: the house 2 stories: one quarter of an acre of land with it, bounded north on the county road. [value] 175 [dollars]." There was one barn, 28x20, and 12 acres of mowing land, bounded west by the lane and Widow Eunice Wyman and Ephraim Tottingham's land, north by the country road. The above were connected with the house and the whole was valued at $420 plus 175 or $595.

In 1794, the above estate in a division of Zebadiah Wyman's property is called the "Brooks Place," being half a house, half a barn, and half a corn house, with the garden, yards, and lanes, etc., with 63 acres of land in two divisions....The homelot, bounded westward on the lane and on Isaac Brooks and on Jonathan Wright, and on the thirds of Benjamin Brooks's Widow, southward and eastward on Josiah Fowle and Ephraim Tottingham out to said lane. The mountain lot was the other division, which we need not describe. The homelot contained 37 acres. The "Brooks Place" with a part of the above land was set off to Mary Wyman.

Another estate mentioned in the division of Z. Wyman's property in 1794, is the "*Mousal* Place," so called, being five acres and a half, bounded northward on the road leading by the schoolhouse to the Brooks place, east on the lane to the land of Isaac Brooks, south on said Brooks's land, and on the Carter and Belknap land, west on James Fowle and the land late Zachariah Brooks to said road. This important discription shows beyond question where the "Mousall Place" is. The widow, Eunice, received the Mousall land as a part of her thirds of her husband's estate.

An interesting provision of the division of the estate was that the widow and children owning land in the Brooks Place were to pass and repass the "usual ways" to their respective parts; and Zebadiah Wyman to pass and repass in the "lane" at the Brooks Place, over the "bridge," etc., to certain of his lands.

Zebadiah Wyman, Esq., purchased the

"Brooks Place," so called, of Timothy Brooks, by a deed, dated March 9, 1791.

The most interesting transfer of the "Mousall Place" of later years, is that where certain members of the Wyman family convey the property to James Tweed, George W. Reed, and Sylvanus Wood, jr., in 1834, it being then a piece of improved land, bounded north on present Montvale Avenue, east by a lane or passage way.....west partly by the burying-yard, to the road first mentioned "all as the fence now stands." Wood disposed of his interest to Reed and Tweed, in 1835.

Zebadiah Wyman, Esq., purchased the estate of Nathan Brooks, 1775 (77 : 404). 1774 (78 : 24). 1782 (83 : 370). He married the widow of Nathan Brooks].

THE FOX HOUSE OR PLACE.

Miss Edgell also had some recollections of the old Fox house which formerly stood near the site where Dr. Chase now lives, near the present Baptist church. When she was six or seven years old, a boy named Skinner, whose parents lived in this house, was drowned in the Middlesex Canal, which was not far distant, and she went with others to the house and saw his body. The house was a common-sized house, with several low back rooms and it was gulleless of paint. The bake-house, shown in the view of Woburn in 1820, then stood at short distance from it on the site now occupied by the Baptist church edifice.

[Isaac, son of Abraham Skinner, was drowned, May 11, 1816, aged 7 years.

In 1798 this place was described in part as follows: "Sylvanus Wood. Half a house, 22 feet by 18, area 396 square feet, 6 windows, 35 square feet of glass, the house 2 stories, with half an acre of land adjoining said house, bounded south on the Common land, [value] 300 [dollars]. Two thirds of a barn, 30 feet by 18." The barn stood near in rear of present Unitarian church edifice.

In 1798, the other half was described: "John Hutchinson, Charlestown, owner; William Abbott, occupant. Half a house, 20 feet by 25, area 500 square feet; 6 windows, 39 square feet of glass, two stories high in front, one in rear, with one quarter of acre of land on which the house stands: bounded east and south on Sylvanus Woods, west on Mary Carter, south on the Common, [value] 300 [dollars]. One third Barn, 13 feet by 18, [value] 30 [dollars]."

A portion of the barn is shown in the view of Woburn in 1820, but the church in the foreground of the picture conceals the house, of which the following account is a general description of its title.

The "Fox Place" is the original estate of Gershom Flagg, the first of that well-known name to settle in Woburn. He was one of Woburn's early tanners, and as a lieutenant in active military service was killed in battle with the Indians in 1690. He appears to have acquired this land partly by purchase and partly by exchange with the town. His dwelling-house and other buildings are mentioned in 1673. The homestead descended to

Gershom Flagg, the second, son of above, who deeded one half part of it and one half acre of land to

Gershom Flagg, the third, his son, who was to have "the westerly end" of the above said dwelling-house, etc., the transfer dated 1736.

Gershom Flagg, the third, died in 1753, owning the other half of the homestead, in which year the *leanto* on the backside of the whole house is mentioned.

Benjamin Flagg, son of Gershom, the third, by descent from his father and by will of his grandfather then appears to have acquired the whole original estate of Gershom, the first. In 1760 Benjamin grants to Ebenezer Richardson two thirds of the estate (on an order of sale from the General Court) and to Benjamin Edwards the remainder, including the "easterly half of the mansion house," etc., which would appear to have been his by inheritance, as above shown.

Ebenezer Richardson conveys his part of the premises to Isaac Munroe of Lexington, 1760, and Benj. Edwards quit-

claims his interest to Benjamin Flagg, in which Jonathan Fox, Gent., and James Simonds join, 1762. Benj. Flagg then conveys to Zachariah Flagg the interest he conveyed to B. Edwards, viz. the "east end" of the dwelling-house, etc., 1762. Isaac Munroe conveys his part to William Fox, 1764, and Zachariah Flagg (son of Gershom) conveys to William Fox, 1765. Thus the house acquired its title of the "Fox House."

Jonathan Fox, Gent., the well-known Colonel, in consideration of that "paternal love and affection which I have for and bear toward my son William Fox," gives to him the south end of his shop, 1765. This shop would appear to stand on present site of Woodberry's store.

William Fox conveys to James Fowle, 3d, one half of the "Fox Place," whose history we are tracing,—1773.

William Fox and James Fowle, 3d, convey to Isaac Stone the whole,—1773. The wife of William was Mary Fox.

William Fox's probate, 1785, discloses for real estate, a house lot, with the house and barn, and a sadler's shop, and lands. The house being the "Fox House" is set off.—the westerly end to the widow—her thirds—1786—while the easterly end was conveyed to Jonathan Tottingham. Tottingham conveyed to Sylvanus Wood, 1794. The sadler's shop,—standing "near the Pound"—was sold to Joshua Reed, jr., 1786. This brings the estate down to the time of Sylvanus Wood, who in 1798 owned it, per the description we have already quoted.

Wood conveyed to Sylvanus Wood, jr., "the easterly half of the Fox House," 1818. Wood jr., conveyed to Augustus Plympton, physician, 1829, and here we leave the title with the exception below.

The cellar of the William Fox house, so called, is mentioned in the deed last named, which would show the house had disappeared by 1829, having stood from a period antedating 1673.

In 1804 the widow Mary Fox disposed of her interest in the place. She had married Hutchinson, and died in 1806. Later, in 1810, an execution was levied on a part of the estate, including half of the dwelling-house called the "Fox Place," and Joshua Reed acquires an interest in it. Joshua Reed conveys to Joshua Reed, jr., and James F. Baldwin acquires an interest through his father Loammi Baldwin, who was one of several to whom was conveyed the reversion of the widow's dower, 1804. J. F. Baldwin acquired the whole of this half, by purchase of different parties in 1812. Augustus Plympton bought his rights, 1830, and thus acquired the balance of the estate known afterwards as his.]

A FOX GENEALOGICAL NOTICE.

The title to the above estate brings out the following items of Fox genealogy upon a point which has been somewhat obscure.

I. Jabez Fox, minister of Woburn church, died 1703.

II. John Fox, minister of Woburn church, died 1756.

III. Jonathan Fox, colonel, died 1790. Married Ruth Carter, 1737 (dau. of Samuel and Margery) d. 1786, aged 67. Children.

1. Mary, 1738.

IV. 2. Thomas, 1739; m. Elizabeth Reed, 1763.

V. 3. William, 1742; m. Abigail Wyman, 1765; Mary Wright, 1772.

4. Ruth, 1744; m. Jonathan Brooks, 1 62.

5. Elizabeth, 1746.

VI. 6. Jonathan, 1748; m. Serviah Tidd, 1769.

7. Judith, 1749; m. Josiah Wilkins, of Marlborough, 1775.

8. Margery, 1752.

9. Ann, 1754.

10. John, 1756; [alive, 1785.—T.]

11. Jabez, 1758; died 1761.

12. Susanna, 1760; died 1761.

13. Susanna, 1762; m. Gideon Richardson, 1782.

IV. Thomas, son of Jonathan; b. 1739; m. Elizabeth Reed, 1763. He died 1815, aged 75. Elizabeth, his widow, died 1818, aged 77. Their son:

1. William Fox, captain (born in Lexington) died 1852, aged 81.

Thomas Fox, son of Col. Jonathan,

was an enlisted soldier in the expedition against Canada in 1760, for whom his father presents a petition (now extant) —2: 110, Woburn Public Library.

V. William, son of Jonathan; b. 1742; m. Abigail Wyman, 1765 (dau. of Dea. Samuel Wyman); she d. 1771, in her 28th year; m. (2d) Mary Wright, 1772 (dau. of Joseph Wright, born 1744); she m. (2d) ——— Hutchinson, per Wright Genealogy, the John Hutchinson, of Charlestown, named in the schedule of the "Fox Place," in 1798, which we have already given. William Fox died 1784, aged 42 (styled William Senior). His w. Mary married John Hutchinson, 1793. She died (at present Arlington) 1806, aged 61. She was the Widow Mary Fox who brought in an account against one of the selectmen of Woburn, for damage done to her house (the "Fox House") by his putting soldiers therein, in January, 1787, the time of the Shays Rebellion. The probate of William Fox (1785) mentions three minor children:

1. Abigail, married Benjamin Wyman, 1788.
2. William, died 1786, aged 20 years.
3. Samuel.

William Fox, son of Col. Jonathan, was adjutant in the Revolutionary Army at Cambridge, 1777. The following entry relating to his funeral is of interest: [1784 Dec. 19 "Wm. Fox buried; Mr. —— Green prayed."—T.] The minister supposed to be referred to was Thomas Green, pastor of the Baptist Society, 1783—1793.

VI. Jonathan, son of Jonathan; b. 1748; m. Serviah Tidd, 1769 (dau. of Jonathan Tidd and Serviah [Barker] Tidd, b. 1748); she died 1786, aged 38 [Widow Zerviah Fox.—T.] Children:

1. Catherine, born 1769; m. Noah Richardson, 1796; he was drowned 1796, aged 30 (*a*); m. (2d) Samuel Gardner, 1799; he died at "Winchester, formerly Charlestown," 1858, aged 88. She died 1842, aged 72. (See Woburn Epitaphs).
2. John, "grandson of Lieut. Jonathan Tidd," died 1776, aged 5 years, 2 mos.
3. Jabez, "grandson of Jonathan Tidd," died 1774, aged 4 months.

(*a*) At Concord, N. H., in the Merrimac River, as he was crossing that stream in a boat to go to his labor, a few weeks after his marriage.—*R. Mem.* p. 302.

The references marked T., in the above genealogy, are from the Diary of Samuel Thompson, Esq., 1755-1814.

OTHER REMINISCENCES.

Miss Edgell also described a small house of one room on the spot where stands Mr. Woodberry's present store. The house was almost in the street and a Mrs. Johnson lived in it.—Clara Johnson, her daughter, teaching a private school in the house, and also in the bake house opposite. This house was moved off, or taken down, it is not recollected which. [Shown in the view of Woburn in 1820, where it is called the property of M [arshall] Fowle. This may be the sadler's shop given in part by Col. Jonathan Fox to his son William Fox (1765.) This was sold to Joshua Reed (then jr.) in 1786. It then stood "near the Pound," the pound being located about where the Bank Block now is. In 1798, Joshua Reed then captain and senior owned it, the building described as "one sadler's shop, 14 by 12 feet, 4 windows, 20 square feet of glass." Value $28.]

Miss Edgell said that in her girlhood, the old Wyman house,—which most remember, as standing on the site of present First Congregational church,—was occupied by the second wife of Zebadiah Wyman, Senior, of that time, viz., the mother and her two daughters, Sally and Eunice. These were influential ladies and well off, the family being one of the wealthy families of Woburn.

Many of the young ladies of that day were educated in what were called young ladies' schools, where they were taught

all the accomplishments, except music, Miss Abby Mead (lately deceased) and Miss Mary Ann Wyman (of the Zeb. Wyman family) attended school in an academy at Saugus. Miss Susan Clapp, daughter of Major Jeremiah Clapp, also kept a school in her father's house at Central Square. A Miss Page taught a similar school in the Mishawum House, and a Miss Cook taught a school in the ell of Mr. Thomas Salmon's present store. Miss Clapp was a large, tall, and dignified lady of imposing presence.

RECOLLECTIONS OF PROMINENT MEN.

Miss Edgell remembers the following men of prominence of that day in Woburn, of whom she gives the following description:

Mr. Chickering, the Congregational minister, had a sober air, but was a man of a good deal of ability.

Joseph Lawrence, Esquire, was short and stout, and his brother, Deacon Ebenezer Lawrence, was tall and slender: Joseph being much shorter in stature, and more robust,—more like an Englishman.

Major Benjamin Wyman was a good looking man and of much influence.

Doctor Kittredge, physician, was short, dumpy and very stout. She had seen him passing many times asleep, in his sulky, from the results of his night work.

Doctor Plympton, the elder, always rode on horseback. He was a fine looking man and combed his hair directly up in front, in style like General Andrew Jackson. He was not a tall man.

The earlier history of the Mousall estate will be the subject of a future paper.

[Obligation is expressed to the Johnson Brothers for the use of their books of abstracts describing titles. Without these invaluable aids little could otherwise be accomplished.

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